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DAY 3 AVALANCHE WEEK

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Ideas abound for Cornwall corridor

Safety. Open house invites ideas on how to improve cycling, pedestrian experience along Cornwall and Point Grey route

EMILY JACKSON
emily.jackson@metronews.ca

It only takes minutes to witness a near-collision at the intersection where cars and cyclists zip off the Burrard Bridge into Kitsilano.

No one denies that the city needs to do something to improve road safety along the five-kilometre Point Grey Road–Cornwall Avenue corridor, but just about every resident has a different opinion on how to fix the problem.

In less than an hour, more than 200 people streamed through the first of three open houses hosted by the city this week to solicit ideas to make biking and walking along the route easier.

Quoted

"The big areas of concern are around safety, vehicle volume and vehicle speeds."

Vancouver transportation director Jerry Dobrovolny

"The big areas of concern are around safety, vehicle volume and vehicle speeds," transportation director Jerry Dobrovolny said, adding that the lack of a seaside greenway from Kits to Jericho beaches causes a gap in cycling and pedestrian networks. Up to 30,000 cars travel on parts of the route daily.

Different design solutions might be needed for different areas of the corridor, Dobrovolny said.

But it will be tricky to balance the rights of pedestrians, residents wary of losing parking spots, businesses, cyclists nervous to use the narrow streets and drivers en route to UBC.

Proposed plans include separated bike lanes on York Avenue, 3rd Avenue or Cornwall and Point Grey Road, and closing sections of the road to traffic.

Resident Roy Smythe is all for better cycling facilities, but he expects contention if the city takes away parking along Cornwall.

With so much traffic to UBC, the roads will likely stay clogged unless the city builds rapid, underground transit to the university, Smythe said.

Many residents said they'd love it if the seawall was extended from Kits to Jericho beaches and they supported the "anonymous" $10-million donation for the project.

City staff will analyze the feedback and report to council with ideas this spring. If plans pass Round 2 of consultation and get council's approval, the project could start by summer 2013.

A biker braves travel along narrow, bike-lane-free Cornwall Avenue. EMILY JACKSON/METRO

But officer, the baby made me do it

Crying, hungry infant among the more unusual excuses local drivers have given for excessive speeding PAGE 3

You don't have to spend big in the Big Easy

Sightsee for free in New Orleans: Hop on a ferry, party on Bourbon Street or shop in the French Market PAGE 15

Nestor sets standard for Canada

Tennis veteran aims to make his mark in Davis Cup alongside his younger teammates PAGE 22

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When buying off the rack, the only options are what is in front of a person- the shoulders may be too wide or too narrow or the fit may just not be comfortable.

Men who buy off the rack almost always need to have their suits altered, but by visiting a BMV bespoke, they can have a suit made exactly to their specifications and body type.

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Hollywood North?

Vancouver mayor expresses support for film-and-TV industry

Mayor Gregor Robertson is too busy to take on any cameo roles, but he wants the city to explore other ways to support B.C.'s film and TV industry.

The $1.19-billion industry that employs 25,000 B.C. residents is losing jobs due to more attractive tax-credit schemes luring production to Ontario and Quebec, Robertson told council Tuesday, and he wants council to help turn business around by passing a motion to support the industry.

"The fundamental problem here is the tax-credit scheme that is not competitive with Ontario and Quebec," he said. "That has to be changed by the provincial government ASAP, or we're going to lose thousands of jobs in Vancouver that are essential to our economy."

Robertson plans to write to Premier Christy Clark, NDP Leader Adrian Dix and the prime minister to express his concern about B.C.'s industry and to urge governments to take a national approach that would level the playing field.

The B.C. industry took a major hit after Ontario introduced a 25 per cent tax credit on total production expenditures a few years ago. Ontario is now North America's third-largest film-production centre.

Amid growing industry protests leading up to May's provincial election, the B.C. Liberals say the government already provides generous tax credits. The NDP has indicated it might raise credits.

Robertson wants staff to report on the state of the industry in Vancouver, what council is doing to support it and any further actions the city can take.

Council is set to vote on the motion in two weeks.

EMILY JACKSON/METRO

When it rains, it pours (until the weekend)

A woman looks out towards the water from the sea wall in Kitsilano on Tuesday. Environment Canada is calling for periods of rain Wednesday and Thursday with a chance of sun and cloud for the weekend. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Driver blames baby for extreme speed

Abbotsford. Cops recount many baffling, interesting excuses from drivers

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS
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A 30-year-old woman blamed her baby after she was caught driving 130 km/h in a 50 km/h zone in Abbotsford Monday.

Abbotsford police say they spotted a speeding BMW at around 12:50 p.m. and tried to pull it over, but the driver didn't stop until after she went through a stop sign.

"When the traffic officer spoke with her, she indicated that the reason she was speeding and the reason she blew the stop sign was because the baby was crying and hungry," Const. Ian MacDonald said Tuesday.

Half an hour earlier, Abbotsford police caught a 22-year-old woman driving 103 km/h in a 50 km/h zone in the 31000 block of Livingstone Avenue.

"When we stopped her, she told us that the reason she was speeding on the wet road was that she had recently had her driver's licence suspended," MacDonald said. "She had just gotten it back so she thought the best thing to do was to test her driving skills."

Both drivers got excessive speeding tickets and had their vehicles impounded. The 30-year-old also received a ticket for failing to stop at a stop sign.

MacDonald said he's heard many baffling and interesting excuses from drivers.

"Some people have suggested that police targeted blondes," he said. "One driver indicated that the problem wasn't with her but with us. She said we were just waiting for a blonde speeder to come by and that's why we ticketed her."

Meanwhile another driver blamed her dog for driving into a pole.

"She had one of those small lap dogs and she said the dog moved suddenly, which caused her to pull the wheel to the right, go off road and drive into the pole," MacDonald said.

"Unfortunately we have encountered some people who don't want to take responsibility for their own bad decision-making behind the wheel," he added. "But the reality is some of their bad decisions can lead to catastrophic injuries or even death."

MacDonald also urged drivers to slow down and be more cautious, especially at intersections, as the Abbotsford police registered its 100th collision of the year at noon Monday.

He said that speeding and left turns at intersections tend to be the leading causes of the collisions.

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World's rarest chocolate lands in Vancouver

Mmmm, maranon. Hot Chocolate Festival runs through Valentine's Day

LIAM BRITTEN
vancouver@metronews.ca

Call it the Jurassic Park of chocolate stories.

Thierry on Alberni Street will be serving hot chocolate made from maranon, the world's rarest chocolate, during Vancouver's annual Hot Chocolate Festival, on now until Valentine's Day.

Thought to be extinct for 94 years, the cacao beans that produce maranon chocolate were rediscovered purely by chance in 2007 by two American businessmen sourcing fruit in the jungles of Peru.

The chocolate is now cultivated on fair-trade organic farms in Peru.

Since only cacao butter is added in its preparation, maranon is delectably creamy. By contrast, most chocolate is made with soy lecithin.

Maranon is also extremely rich and lacks the bitterness associated with other types of chocolate.

"Fragrant, fruity but not overpowering," Chef Thierry Busset said, describing the taste.

"I find the flavour to be perfectly balanced."

In addition to hot chocolate ($9.75 a mug), Thierry will be serving maranon-chocolate-dipped madeleines and pure-maranon chocolate bars.

Tasting notes

"Fragrant, fruity but not overpowering."

Chef Thierry Busset, on the taste of maranon chocolate

Barista Shinji Miya pours a hot chocolate made with maranon on Tuesday at Thierry, on Alberni Street. LIAM BRITTEN/FOR METRO

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Sex workers. Drop-in centre may need more funding

Women in the survival sex trade need a safe place to go at all times, but the drop-in centre given provincial cash in the wake of the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry may not have enough money to keep its doors open around the clock.

Vancouver's Wish drop-in centre, which received $750,000 from the province when the inquiry report was released in December 2012, may only be able to open for about 18 hours a day, Marlene George, of the Women's Memorial March Committee, told city council on Tuesday.

Mayor Gregor Robertson said any gap is a "big concern."

"We're expecting there will be adequate funding from the province to ensure that women have a safe place to go," he said, adding that the city also provides grants to the centre.

A B.C. housing spokesperson could not immediately comment. EMILY JACKSON/METRO

Mitigating factors. Stanley Cup rioter gets house arrest

A Stanley Cup rioter who was seen destroying three cars, including a police cruiser, has been sentenced to four months of house arrest, a year of probation and 80 hours of community service.

Judge Donna Senniw cited Natalee Dennis's early guilty plea, lack of a criminal record and the notoriety she gained in her hometown of Tofino as mitigating factors in the sentencing. She also said Dennis had done a lot since the melee in 2011, including undergoing a "cultural program of healing and recovery," pursuing post-secondary education to become a paramedic and abstaining from alcohol.

"The unique component of this case was that Dennis was the first First Nations person to be sentenced in any Canadian riot since the Supreme Court of Canada decided a case called Gladue about 12 years ago," defence lawyer Jason Tarnow said.

According to Gladue, the Criminal Code requires judges to take a restorative-justice approach in sentencing First Nations offenders.

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS/METRO

Surrey homicide

Dead man was targeted, police say

Investigators have identified the man found dead near a ditch in Surrey on Monday as 26-year-old Jaskaran Singh Sandhu. The Integrated Homicide Investigation Team said Sandhu, a Lower Mainland resident, was known to police and appears to have been a victim of a targeted attack, possibly gang-related. He survived what was believed to be a targeted shooting at a Mr. Lube on Barnett Highway in Coquitlam in September 2011, reports say.

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS/METRO

Accident

Man pinned himself between truck, tree: Police

A 50-year-old man accidentally killed himself while backing up his truck on his driveway, Surrey RCMP say. Police were called to a home in the 6200 block of 132A Street on Sunday and found the man in distress. He was apparently backing his truck with the driver's door partly open when he came into contact with a tree and was pinned between the tree and the truck. He died at the scene. Witnesses are asked to contact Surrey RCMP traffic services at 604-599-0502.

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS/METRO

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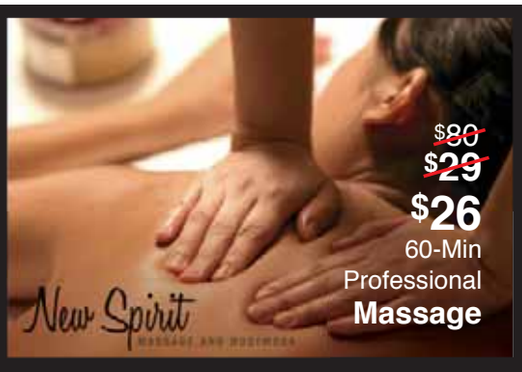

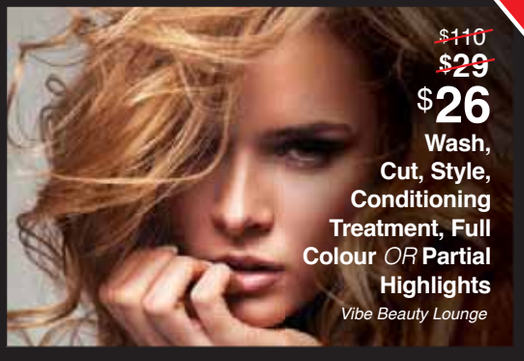

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Scores of dead bodies dumped in Syrian city

Nationwide violence. Various sources put the number killed on Tuesday at around 160

The bodies of at least 65 people were found in Syria's northern city of Aleppo Tuesday as the government and rebels blamed each other for the mass killing.

The bodies, almost all men in their 20s and 30s, were discovered in the contested neighbourhood of Bustan al-Qasr, according to Rami Abdul-Rahman, director of the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights. Intense clashes between rebels and government troops have raged in the district since opposition forces launched an offensive on Aleppo in July.

Abdul-Rahman said the identities of the dead were unknown and it was not clear who was behind the killings. A government official told The Associated Press that the dead were residents of Bustan al-Qasr.

Syrian state TV said the men were killed by members of Jabhat al-Nusra, an al-Qaida-linked group. It said the men were killed after they demanded members of the group to leave their areas.

An activist group, the Local Co-ordination Committees, put the number of bodies at 80. It blamed government forces for the killing.

The same day, a bomb wounded Abdul-Razzak Qtini, once governor of the province of Hama, as he was in his car, said Abdul-Rahman and a neighbour of Qtini.

Earlier Tuesday, rebels stormed a government intelligence complex in the east, freeing at least 11 people held in a prison there, activists said.

Regime warplanes also carried several airstrikes on rebel positions in restive towns and villages around Damascus, the Observatory said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Protesters demand blood for blood in India

Scores of protesters gathered near India's Parliament on Tuesday demanding the death penalty for six men accused in the fatal gang rape of a young woman on a bus in New Delhi last month. The protesters carried placards saying, "Give us Justice, Hang the Rapists," and shouted slogans before conducting a mock hanging of the men who are facing trial in a special court in New Delhi. Meanwhile, India's Supreme Court on Tuesday rejected a petition to move the trial out of New Delhi. The petition argued that the men would not get a fair trial because of the charged atmosphere in the capital. ALTAF QADRI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nightclub. Cheap flares linked to lethal blaze

Penny-pinching by a band known for its onstage pyrotechnic displays may have cost more than 230 people their lives at a nightclub in southern Brazil, according to a police inspector leading the investigation into this weekend's deadly blaze.

"The flare lit was for outdoor use only, and the people who lit them know that," Inspector Marcelo Arigony told reporters at a news conference Tuesday. "They chose to buy those because they were cheaper than those that can be used indoors."

Arigony said that the outdoor flares cost a mere $1.25 a piece, compared to the $35 price tag for an indoor flare.

Police have said the club's ceiling was covered with an insulating foam made from a combustible material.

A malfunctioning fire extinguisher was not legal, Arigony said, and the club's operating licence had expired in August.

"Any child could have seen that this establishment should not have been open," he said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Judge denies request for info on $6M legal payout

Taxpayers in British Columbia may never fully learn why the government paid $6 million in legal fees for two former ministerial aides who pleaded guilty to corruption charges, after a judge dismissed an application for government documents.

B.C. Supreme Court Justice Robert Bauman said in his written decision Tuesday that auditor general John Doyle's request for documents involving Dave Basi and Bobby Virk amounted to a sweeping invasion of solicitor-client privilege.

Doyle told a hearing last September that as a public watchdog, he needed access to government information to determine whether public money was spent economically in connection to an indemnity policy for senior employees who are acquitted.

Under that policy, the government has waived legal fees for 95 people since 1999, with the biggest payout going to Basi and Virk, although they pleaded guilty.

Judge's decision

"It would be wrong to conclude that the result in this case represents the triumph of secrecy over transparency and accountability."

B.C. Supreme Court Justice Robert Bauman, adding that the principle of solicitor-client privilege has been a cornerstone of democracy for centuries.

The pair were charged with fraud and breach of trust in connection with the $1-billion privatization sale of B.C. Rail to CN in 2003, which culminated in a police raid on the legislature in December that year amid allegations the men leaked government information to one of three bidders.

The case dragged on for seven years until it abruptly came to an end in October 2010, when Basi and Virk made surprise guilty pleas and the government announced their legal fees had been paid.

The move sparked public outrage, demands for a public inquiry by the Opposition New Democrats and eventually Doyle's court application.

"Solicitor-client privilege is not a lawyer's 'trick' to avoid proper scrutiny of her client's conduct or the steps taken on his or her behalf during the retainer; it is a critical civil right," the judge said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Public interest

New Democrat Leonard Krog, critic for the Attorney General's Ministry, said his party favours a public inquiry.

- "On the law, the judge may well be right," he said. "But ... people clearly wanted the auditor general to succeed."
- Krog believes the auditor general may be able to do a limited investigation.

Kazakhstan

20 die in crash of Canadian plane

A Canadian-made airplane carrying at least 20 people crashed Tuesday in heavy fog near Kazakhstan's principal city, Almaty, killing all on board.

State news agency Kazinform cites an emergency official at the site as saying the plane was initially denied permission to land due to poor visibility.

The plane made a second approach, but lost its bearings and crashed a few kilometres from the airport. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pakistan

One slain in attack on polio workers

Gunmen on a motorcycle shot and killed a police officer protecting polio workers during a UN-backed vaccination campaign in northwestern Pakistan on Tuesday, police said.

Some Islamic militants oppose the campaign, accusing health workers of acting as spies for the U.S. and claiming the vaccine is intended to sterilize Muslim children.

In a separate incident in the region, a man wounded a polio worker with an axe. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

India tour. Tories grilled over $1-million transport

The Conservative government is defending the $1-million cost of flying armoured vehicles to India for Prime Minister Stephen Harper, saying it was a security decision by the RCMP.

Harper's use of an armour-plated car and an SUV bearing Canadian licence plates during his November tour prompted New Democrats to formally inquire about the cost.

The final tally was produced this week as parliamentarians returned after six weeks off.

It cost a little more than $1 million for the use of the massive Canadian Forces C-17 Globemaster transport, which logged 48.5 hours of airtime flying the two vehicles to India.

Following a full assessment, "the RCMP determined there were no appropriate vehicles available in India," the government said.

An Indian government official confirmed during Harper's visit that it had offered an armoured Mercedes Benz for his use.

Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird responded that India has lost two prime ministers to assassination in the last 25 years. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Landslide. Rescue halted for buried quarry workers

The search was suspended Tuesday night for two Quebec quarry workers who are missing after an apparent landslide swept several vehicles into a pit nearly 100 metres deep.

Two trucks and an excavator were trapped in huge mounds of loose gravel at the bottom of the snowy crater in L'Epiphanie, Que., just east of Montreal.

A third worker managed to climb out of the excavator after the vehicle tumbled down the steep embankment. He suffered from frostbite, shock and minor injuries and was whisked to safety by helicopter, according to provincial police spokesman Benoit Richard.

Specialists working with rescue crews recommended suspending the search until Wednesday morning, Richard said. Search teams needed to be able to see how the gravel in the pit might shift while they work.

Repentigny police spokesman Bruno Marier says rescue workers planned to bring heavy search equipment down to the site in the morning.

Police could not explain the cause of the landslide. THE CANADIAN PRESS

TONIGHT AN ALL NEW LINEUP

THE LANG & O'LEARY EXCHANGE **6:30PM**

An interview with RIM's CEO on today's launch of the new Blackberry® 10.

George Stroumboulopoulos Tonight **7PM**

An exclusive interview with Oprah Winfrey.

NEW NIGHT

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8PM

The Ron James Show

8:30PM

ALL-NEW

ARCTIC AIR

9PM

CBC

Man's best friend to

Release the hounds.
Metro reporter discovers first-hand what it's like to be buried under snow

MATT KIELTYKA
matt.kieltyka@metronews.ca

Canadian Avalanche Rescue Dog Association's Sadie pokes her head through the snow during a rescue simulation in Revelstoke, B.C., on Jan. 8. MATT KIELTYKA/METRO

DAY 3
THE RESCUERS

Tomorrow: Staying Alive
Metro takes you to school on how to survive in treacherous terrain.

The only sound I hear is that of my own body breathing in and out.

It's been that way since I climbed into a snug hole carved into the side of Revelstoke Mountain Resort and flashed a "thumbs up" sign to ski patrol.

As I lay there in the fetal position, the patroller covered my one escape with large slabs of snow and ice.

"Are you OK? I'm going to fill in the cracks with snow now," he says.

The outside world is silent for the next 15 minutes, although everyone on the surface says they keep trying to communicate with me.

I can't tell.

Today, I'm put in the role of an avalanche victim.

• • •

Al Roberts and his faithful companion Sadie, a seven-year-old Belgian-shepherd cross, bide their time in the kennel on top of the ski hill when Roberts hears "go ahead" over the static on his radio.

Sadie knows it's time to work.

She leaps out of her cage and barks excitedly as Roberts steps into his ski bindings and starts descending the mountain.

In a few minutes, they'll be at the site of a simulated avalanche where a "victim" is buried underneath a pile of snow.

To the naked eye, it's impossible to tell where I'm buried.

Sadie impatiently paces back and forth as they reach the bottom of the run.

"Are you ready to go to work?" Roberts works Sadie up into a frenzy. "Search!"

• • •

The sound of my breathing is joined by a faint rustle overhead.

Although I'm not in real danger, my spirit soars on a gust of optimism as rustling turns to scratching, and scratching turns to the distinct sound of paws digging through snow and hurried panting.

Bits of snow come free and sprinkle down on me as the sounds get louder.

Suddenly an entire block comes down and I see Sadie's wet nose poke through the opening.

She barks, grabs the old, raggedy sweater I'm holding in my left hand and starts tugging at it, helping me as I claw my way out of the cold prison with my free arm.

Roberts, his boots crunching on fresh powder as he races toward us, keeps Sadie motivated.

"What did you find? There's a good girl, good girl."

• • •

It was a minute and 30 seconds from the time Roberts shouted, "Search!" to the moment Sadie homed in on my scent and started digging for me.

Sadie, along with her owner Al Roberts, have been CARDA validated for five years, and in that time, they've honed their rescue skills. MATT KIELTYKA/METRO

Roberts explains that he and Sadie, like all members of the Canadian Avalanche Rescue Dog Association (CARDA), are able to cover an area six times that of a team of human searchers in just a fraction of the time when responding to an avalanche.

The effectiveness of rescue dogs can't be understated.

"When you're buried, every second counts," is the tagline used on CARDA's website.

Once on scene, Roberts' job is to see which direction the wind is coming from and send Sadie into it.

"The scent of the person comes out of the snow just like smoke would out of a hole. It takes the path of least resistance, out of the snow and into the wind," he explains.

"Once the dog gets into the scent cone, they can pinpoint where it's coming from. You can see their head just snap back and you can tell there's something there. They become more intent on finding where the scent is coming from, and as soon as they find it in the ground they just dive right in."

And anyone buried underneath is usually glad they do.

Avalanche control forecaster Troy Leahy and his rescue dog, Penny, are two of the most

Exclusively online

Visit metronews.ca/buriedalive for more from Avalanche Week, including what happened when Sadie the rescue dog dug our reporter out of an avalanche.

Sadie MATT KIELTYKA/METRO

Veteran Revelstoke Search and Rescue volunteers Zuzana Driediger, right, and Buck Corrigan say self-rescue is the norm when avalanches hit in the backcountry. MATT KIELTYKA/METRO

Search and rescue volunteers

When a fatal avalanche strikes in the B.C. backcountry, it's search and rescue volunteers who face the grim task of recovering the bodies.

Situated in what is known as the "powder belt," and boasting the most vertical ski resort in North America, Revelstoke is home to a huge contingent of highly experienced search and rescuers.

Buck Corrigan, a veteran manager at Revelstoke Search and Rescue (SAR) who helps co-ordinate a team of about 60, says despite the high seasonal risk, avalanche calls to his office aren't that common. Thanks to the proliferation of knowledge and more people than ever carrying avalanche kits, he gets perhaps one or two per season.

"We went to one last year and it was over before we got there," he says. "The local group had done a self-rescue, and there was one fatality and by the time we got there it was over. They had recovered the fatality.

"In this part of the world, it's just accepted that you don't go out without a certain amount of equipment."

When an avalanche call does come in, an automated call gets sent out to the experts, day or night, who then rally at a muster station. The SAR team will include a technician to do a risk assessment, paramedics, avalanche rescue dogs, and a helicopter and heli-sling technicians.

Zuzana Driediger is a part-time Revelstoke SAR volunteer with 20 years' experience. She says some calls are more stressful than others — such as the Size 3.5 avalanche (out of a zero-to-five scale) that killed two men in 2010 while 200 snowmobilers were attending an

the rescue

familiar faces for skiers at Revelstoke Mountain Resort. MATT KIELTYKA/METRO

pros at keeping calm in crisis

Quoted

"You kind of accept it that that's part of the game in the mountains."

Zuzana Driediger, Revelstoke Search and Rescue volunteer, acknowledges fatalities can take a toll in her line of work

annual competition at nearby Boulder Mountain.

She recalled that at one point crews had to stop a man from building a bonfire and pouring gas on it, because the smoke was impeding rescue helicopters. She spent three days on the scene with her avalanche rescue dog, Hero, who used his keen sense of smell to help ensure the site was clear and no one was still buried.

"I personally try to stay calm and collected and just look at the big picture and focus on safety first and what's important," she said of how she copes in a crisis.

"At the time I'm not very emotional. I just focus on the task at hand, but sometimes, yeah, it does affect you later on if there's fatalities involved, but you kind of accept it that that's part of the game in the mountains."

Emergency Management BC reimburses all volunteer search and rescue groups for the costs of each rescue, while community organizations help raise money for new equipment.

KATE WEBB/METRO

K9 heroes

MATT KIELTYKA/METRO

The CARDA dogs of Revelstoke

1 Penny

Four-year-old Labrador/ golden retriever cross

Handler: Tory Leahy
Bio: While Leahy, an avalanche control forecaster at Revelstoke Mountain Resort, is out ensuring the ski hills are safe for the public, Penny usually isn't too far behind.

2 Hero

Five-year-old German shepherd

Handler: Zuzana Driediger
Bio: As part of the Revelstoke search and rescue team, Hero's most notable mission was responding to the aftermath of the 2010 avalanche at Boulder Mountain during a snowmobiling event that involved more than 200 sledders.

3 Sadie

Seven-year-old Belgian shepherd cross

Handler: Al Roberts
Bio: A well-trained dog with a keen nose, Sadie is also a fan favourite on the slopes, especially when surprised skiers watch her jump onto a chair lift on her own.

About CARDA

Born out of a loose, but long-standing partnership between the RCMP, Parks Canada and the ski industry, the Canadian Avalanche Rescue Dog Association officially formed in 1982 as a non-profit volunteer organization. There are currently 28 validated CARDA teams (made up of an owner and his/her dog) active in British Columbia, Alberta and Yukon Territory. Teams must be re-validated each year and must attend a winter training course at least every second year.

MATT KIELTYKA/METRO

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A BlackBerry is born.
In New York City, RIM is set for the big reveal

After several technical blunders, two unexpected delays and one major shakeup in its leadership, BlackBerry-maker Research In Motion is about to raise the curtain for its new smartphone devices in the hope that consumers share the excitement.

The unveiling of the phones and operating system on Wednesday marks the start of an advertising blitz that will stretch to social media, the Super Bowl and beyond as RIM tries to regain the cool factor that was once firmly in its grasp.

If all goes according to plan, the event will also mark the end of a troublesome 12 months that has seen RIM try to stay afloat while its future was constantly in question by outsiders, and its stock price tumbled to the lowest level in about a decade.

While the first hurdles to overcome on Wednesday are the opinions of tech analysts and investor reaction, the true measure of success — actual sales of the phones — is still weeks away.

As a crowd of thousands gathers Wednesday at Pier 36, a massive entertainment venue on the shores of Manhattan, chief executive Thorsten Heins will step onto the stage holding the BlackBerry that has been considered at once the company's last hope and its biggest hurdle. THE CANADIAN PRESS

A prototype of the new BlackBerry 10 operating system seen last fall.
GETTY IMAGES FILE

Live coverage
More on today's RIM launch at metronews.ca

Oscar's Ontario connection.
This year, a Canadian firm is in charge of little gold men

Every year at the Academy Awards, the big question is: Who does the Oscar go to?

This year, there's a new one to trip up trivia buffs: Where does the Oscar come from?

For the first time in its venerable history, Hollywood's most prestigious accolade is being manufactured under the watch of a Canadian company.

St. Regis Crystal of Markham, Ont., purchased Oscar's Chicago-based manufacturer, R.S. Owens, last December and with it, R.S. Owens' 30-year tradition of making the internationally recognized gold-plated statues.

Company decisions now come from southern Ontario, but the Oscars are still being made at the Chicago foundry, says St. Regis vice president Jeff Firkser.

"We purchased the company for its talent and for the stature they have in Chicago," Firkser says of R.S. Owens, which also makes trophies for the Emmy Awards and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Awards. "This particular award is a cast award and it's not going to change. It's going to always be done there."

An Oscar statue handed out last year.
GETTY IMAGES FILE

That guarantee was key to sealing the new partnership, says the president of R.S. Owens, Scott Siegel.

Firkser says he had never seen an Oscar up close until taking over R.S. Owens. "The weight of it is quite surprising. It's a lot heavier than it looks," he says of the trophy.

At its core is britannium, a pewter-like alloy that is poured by hand into a steel mould. The figure is ground, sanded and polished, and then plated several times — first with copper, then nickel, then silver and, finally, heavy 24-karat gold.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Hey! Where'd Beijing go?

A cyclist passes a flag-raising ceremony during severe pollution at Tiananmen Square on Tuesday in Beijing. Thick, off-the-scale smog shrouded eastern China for the second time in about two weeks, forcing airlines to cancel flights because of poor visibility and prompting Beijing to temporarily shut factories and curtail fleets of government cars. FENG LI/GETTY IMAGES

Market Minute

DOLLAR 99.76¢ (+0.41¢)

TSX 12,830.56 (+14.64)

OIL $97.57 US (+$1.13)

GOLD $1,660.80 US (+$7.90)

Natural gas: $3.26 US (-3¢)
Dow Jones: 13,954.42 (+72.49)

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GO LEGLESS AND GET AHEAD THIS YEAR

JUST SAYIN'
Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca

Back in the bad old days when everyone in Canada was nearly Scottish, there was one New Year, Jan. 1, and that was it.

Today's infinitely more diverse (and interesting) times mean you have multiple opportunities to slough off the old year — like the skin of a snake — and begin anew.

And wouldn't you know? Coming up, on Feb. 10, it's the Year of the Snake for followers of the lunar calendar.

The snake is the sixth sign in the Chinese zodiac, and snake years happen in intervals of 12. Last year was a dragon year, which you might argue is a more impressive member of the reptile family, but don't sell the snake short.

2013

Never stab a snake in the back, because a snake never forgets and always gets the last word.

The snake (in short) is good at, and for, business. This year is specifically a year of the water snake, which means, according to various Chinese astrologers, those born under the sign are influential, insightful, intellectual, motivated and determined to succeed. Snakes keep to themselves, don't talk much and are smarter than you. When you're together in the boardroom, you really want to know what they're thinking but you haven't the faintest idea.

Snakes make great scientists and investigators. They're relentless.

Never stab a snake in the back, because a snake never forgets and always gets the last word.

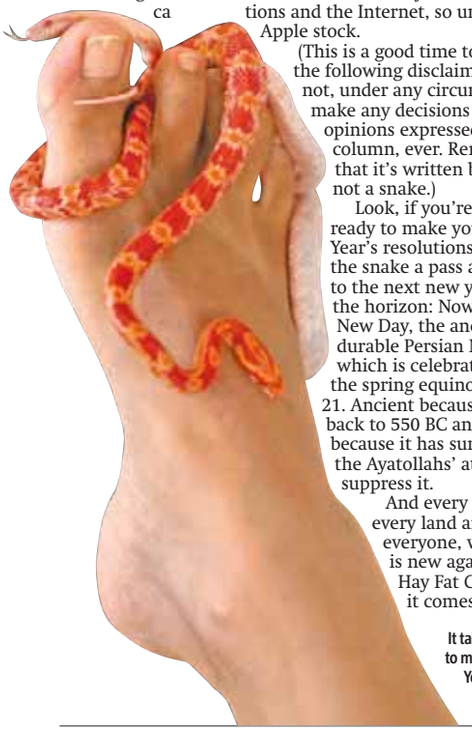
What's sauce for the snake is swamp water for the tiger, e.g., yours truly. Tigers and snakes are on completely different paths. If you have a snake in the house, you will never go hungry. If you have a tiger curled up in front of the fireplace, you're safe. Just don't expect them to get along.

Knowing your snakes from your tigers can be useful for making bold predictions about the coming year. According to geomancer and philosopher Paul Ng of Richmond Hill, Ont., the Year of the Snake will be a good year for water-oriented businesses, such as fishing, but also a good year for metal and earth industries, such as real estate, except in Scarborough, Mississauga and Vancouver. It will be a bad year for communications and the Internet, so unload that Apple stock.

(This is a good time to issue the following disclaimer: do not, under any circumstances, make any decisions based on opinions expressed in this column, ever. Remember that it's written by a tiger, not a snake.)

Look, if you're still not ready to make your New Year's resolutions, just give the snake a pass and go to the next new year on the horizon: Nowruz, or New Day, the ancient and durable Persian New Year, which is celebrated on the spring equinox, March 21. Ancient because it goes back to 550 BC and durable because it has survived even the Ayatollahs' attempts to suppress it.

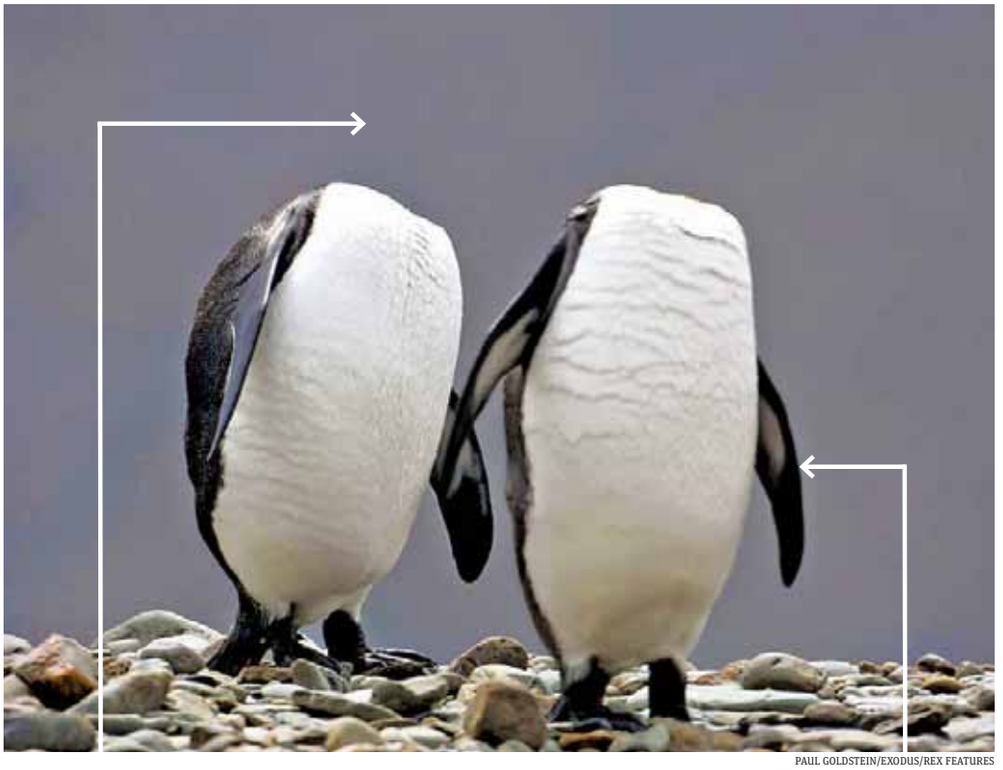
And every year, in every land and for everyone, what's old is new again. Gung Hay Fat Choy, when it comes!



It takes a real snake to make a bold New Year's prediction.

GETTY IMAGES

Heads off to you, Pingu



PAUL GOLDSTEIN/EXODUS/REX FEATURES

Wildlife photography

Not a good time to lose one's head

It appears that penguins can be camera-shy, too.

Wildlife photographer Paul Goldstein took this amusing image of two seemingly headless king penguins at St. Andrews Bay on the British territory of South Georgia. As it turned out, the flightless birds were using their double-jointed necks to bend their heads backward. **METRO**

Photographer's viewpoint

"Initially I was just glad to be able to isolate a couple of these to photograph. It is so difficult normally as there are a quarter of a million others to clutter the background."

Paul Goldstein, photographer and tour guide for travel company Exodus

Never get a head

Keeping composure is tough to do

The London, England-based photographer recalls his encounter with the playful pair.

"One penguin had reverted to normal by the time I got the camera up but then it hid its head again, and its mate did it too," Goldstein said. "I just managed to keep the camera still enough as I was laughing so much — to them it is a perfectly normal manoeuvre, but to me — not so." **METRO**

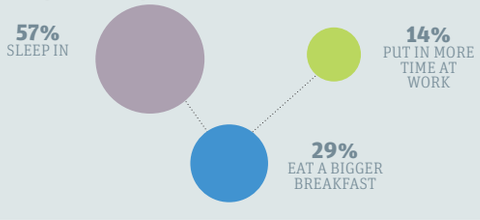
South Georgia Island

- **Location.** Sits 1,390 kilometres to the east of the Falkland Islands.
- **Population.** Approximately 2.23 million pairs of king penguins, with numbers rising. No human population.
- **Life.** Cold, highly-oxygenated waters promote marine life. Krill, the shrimp-like crustaceans at the base of the food chain, thrive here.

Metropolitan Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

What would you do with extra time shaved from your daily commute?



Twitter

@BCLionsDen: Judging by tweets from @JimPoppGM, Jacques Chapdelaine is not being considered for the #MTLAlouettes head coaching position. #BCLions #CFL

@VanRealDeal: . @MayorGregor introduces motion to support film industry. Watch for it at next Council meeting. #vanpoli

@SNETPacific: Eddie Lack had successful hip surgery and will be out six months. #Canucks #Wolves

@MayorGregor: 2012 was a record year for new #Vancouver rental housing, laneway homes + secondary suites! http://bit.ly/newrental

@SophieTSimmons: @VanCanucks always!!! Canucks have my heart! <3 #CanucksG6

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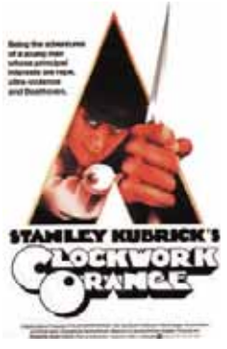
SCENE 2

Cineplex resurrects classic films in high-def

Some films cited as classics can be enjoyed as historical artifacts, more appreciated for their aesthetics and less for their urgent, contemporary effect. But the spate of motion pictures selected to be screened as part of Cineplex's fourth annual The Great Digital Film Festival are rare in that they are indeed landmark movies and play as good today — if not better — than they did in their respective eras. Running at select Cineplex theatres from Feb. 1 to 7, the Great Digital Film Festival programmers are spotlighting sumptuous new high-def prints. Here are a few of Metro's primo picks.

CHRIS ALEXANDER
scene@metronews.ca



A Clockwork Orange (1971)

As disturbing and viscerally alive as ever, Kubrick's razor-sharp satire is a must see big-screen experience. Malcolm McDowell is ultraviolence personified, Wendy Carlos' music still chills and the director's trademark dissonance has never been more prominent.

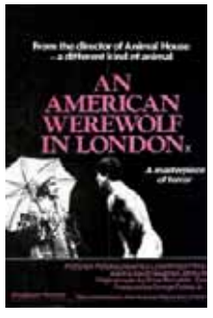
Exclusively online

Cynthia Loyst, a host of InnerSPACE, breaks down genres you don't want to miss at metronews.ca.

Jaws (1975)

The film that sparked the template for the contemporary Hollywood blockbuster, Spielberg's iconic and terrifying chomp on Peter Benchley's killer shark book is a perfect film, from stem to stern (of the Orca, natch).

From the performances (Roy Scheider, Robert Shaw, Richard Dreyfuss) to John Williams' double bass note driven score, JAWS is an epic, genre defying gem.



An American Werewolf in London (1981)

"Stay clear of the moors." A wiser warning never spoken in cinema and it's a shame the heroes of John Landis's maverick comedic shocker don't heed it. Then again, if they did we wouldn't have this visionary blend of humour and horror; part tragedy, part love story and jolted by Rick Baker's Oscar winning prosthetic man-to-wolf transformation sequences that have never, ever been bettered. This writer, for one, cannot wait to hear that blood-curdling howl screaming digitally from the screen.

Raiders of the Lost Ark (1981)

The first and best of the Indiana Jones films, this mega-hit is another rousing, vintage Spielberg adventure classic, one that demands to be seen on a gigantic screen.

Who needs 3D when that monstrous boulder comes crashing through the cave in the films' much copied opening sequence? This one is a generational right of passage. Take the kids.

Casino (1995)

The same creative team behind the much-lauded gangster drama Goodfellas (Scorsese and writer Nicholas Pileggi) re-teamed for this sprawling look at the dark side of mafia-ruled Las Vegas circa the '60s and '70s and though it's been called inferior to its predecessor, a second (or third or fourth) look might change some tunes. Robert DeNiro's best performance bumps up against Joe Pesci's mania, but the real treat is Sharon Stone as a playgirl who malfunctions with Shakespearean aplomb. Amazing pop music score too.

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Bradley Cooper. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Bradley Cooper back pedals on Armstrong movie

Despite telling BBC News earlier this month that he'd be up for starring in a J.J. Abrams-produced biopic on disgraced cyclist Lance Armstrong, Oscar-nominee Bradley Cooper insists he's not interested.

"Oh my God, that's so nuts," Cooper tells Access Hollywood, adding that he "had no idea what (the interviewer) was talking about" during the red carpet chat.

Dazed and confused

"(I) had no idea what (the interviewer) was talking about."

Bradley Cooper
Talking about being confused over a question on the Lance Armstrong movie

"I didn't even know that J.J. ... has the rights. I had no idea."

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Stay classy Brandi Glanville

THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

Holy cats, you guys. Brandi Glanville is insane. How do we know this (besides reading every tabloid story ever)? Let me present to you some excerpts from the The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills star's new book, Drinking & Tweeting and other Brandi Blunders, which were obtained by Life & Style.

Her reaction after finding out about her then-husband, Edward Cibrian's, affair with LeAnn Rimes: "I'm not entirely sure how I ended up on the floor of my closet sobbing ... a teary-eyed Eddie found me lying there minutes later, and without saying so much as a word, he started kissing me all over ... he pulled off my workout pants and we started having sex right there," she recalls. "He swore up and down my body that it wasn't true ... that it was completely innocent. In that moment, it was easier to believe him, because I just couldn't stand the thought of being without him."

How she would go about her revenge: "A brand-new vagina would be an Eddie-free vagina. ... I decided that since Eddie had ruined my vagina for me, he could pay for a new one. I gave (the doctor's office) Eddie's credit card number," she says about undergoing a vaginal rejuvenation for $12,000.

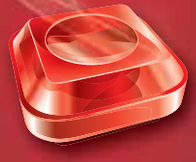
But, really, no hard feelings: "I would like to thank my ex-husband, Edward Cibrian, for giving me all the material I could ever need to write this book and for helping me discover the strong, independent woman inside of me," she writes, in Drinking & Tweeting, which will surely be a New York Times bestseller.

Quoted

"I'm not entirely sure how I ended up on the floor of my closet sobbing."

Brandi Glanville

Weather your cold.



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It's expensive to be a tourist in a town that's hosting two of the biggest events of the new year — Mardi Gras and the NFL Super Bowl — but New Orleans has plenty of free things to do. The nearly 300-year-old French city has walkable neighbourhoods and scenic public parks dotted with centuries-old oak trees draped in Spanish moss, along with a free ferry and historic market.

PHOTOS AND STORY: THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

5 Free things to do in New Orleans

Mardi Gras and Bourbon Street

New Orleans is perhaps best-known for hosting one of the biggest free parties in the world: Mardi Gras. The Carnival season includes parades with costumed riders, marching bands and decorated floats, but it only lasts a few weeks. Visitors can get a taste of the madness and revelry of Carnival any time of year on Bourbon Street, the city's most famous thoroughfare, where scantily-clad women beckon patrons from strip club doorways and beads are flung from balconies to revellers down below year-round. It's also a hot spot for live music, which spills out onto the street from clubs with doors and windows flung open. And finally, Bourbon Street is a the one place where a costume can be flaunted any time of year.

Jackson Square

Artists painting on canvas, clowns making balloon animals, street performers and jazz musicians are among the free entertainment to be found in Jackson Square, a one-block section of the French Quarter anchored by a lush green space with benches set amid gardens and grand oak trees. The square is bordered by pedestrian-only walkways with restaurants, storefronts and upper-level balconies boasting decorative ironwork. Benches allow visitors to take in the architecture of the square's historic buildings, including the Cabildo and Pontalba Apartments, believed to be among the oldest apartment buildings in the country. Visitors are also welcome at St. Louis Cathedral, a place of worship for Catholics since the 1720s. jackson-square.com

City Park

City Park is the largest green space in New Orleans, with more than 1,300 acres of gardens, lagoons and walking trails set amid centuries-old oak trees draped in Spanish moss and filled with birds. The New Orleans Museum of Art is located in the park, and while there's a fee to enter the museum, just beyond the museum are dozens of art objects you can see for free in the Sydney and Walda Besthoff Sculpture Garden. The sculptures, valued at more than $25 million, can be viewed in a relaxing setting that includes meandering footpaths, pedestrian bridges and reflecting lagoons. Among the artists represented are Antoine Bourdelle, Gaston Lachaise, Henry Moore, Jacques Lipchitz, Barbara Hepworth and Seymour Lipton. neworleanscitypark.com.

Mississippi River Ferry

A boat ride is one of the best ways to get a look at the New Orleans skyline and the Mississippi River's daily parade of river barges, steamships and cruise ships. The Algiers Point ferry, which has been in operation since the early 1800s, is free to pedestrians. It runs every 30 minutes between the landing at the foot of Canal Street near the Aquarium of the Americas and the historic Algiers Point neighbourhood directly across the river from the French Quarter. Algiers Point, established in 1719, boasts a trove of historic Victorian-style homes, magnolia tree-lined streets with several parks, cafés, historic churches and bars with live music. But perhaps its best feature is an unobstructed view of the city's skyline and river traffic.

French Market

The smell of sweet pralines and freshly-brewed coffee wafts through the air of the New Orleans French Market. The centuries-old commercial hub stretches for several city blocks along the banks of the Mississippi River in the French Quarter and includes Cafe du Monde, home of the deep-fried, sugar-coated beignet, a popular New Orleans pastry. The market is a mix of open-air retail spaces dotted with produce stands and enclosed stores carrying specialty clothing and jewelry. It's an ideal destination for window shopping and people watching. The French Market dates to 1791 and was originally the site of a Native American trading post. European immigrants traded there, as did African-Americans selling coffee, pralines and calas.

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Mardi Gras brings baby dolls back

Century-old tradition.
Fat Tuesday's garter-clad women get their own exhibit

The "baby dolls," an on-again, off-again Mardi Gras tradition of New Orleans' African-American community, are on again.

The troupes of women strutting and prancing in bonnets, garters and skimpy or short, ruffled dresses on Fat Tuesday also are being spotlighted in a new book and museum exhibit that trace their history and modern rebirth.

When the predominantly African-American Zulu krewe hits the streets on Fat Tuesday — Feb. 12 — its marchers will include the Baby Doll Ladies, a troupe formed after hurricane Katrina. They play tambourines and cowbells to accompany their dance, a hip-hop style called bounce.

Though Mardi Gras celebrations date from the city's French founding in 1718, historians say the baby doll tradition started in 1912 when African American prostitutes who worked just outside the legal red-light district, called Storyville, dressed up on Mardi Gras to outdo their legal rivals.

Storyville was closed in 1917, but the baby doll costumes caught on and survived for decades in African-American neighbourhoods.

In the years of segregation, blacks celebrated Carnival in their neighbourhoods with informal parades of the brightly feathered and beaded Mardi Gras Indians, picnics and parties centred around the floats of the Zulu parade and costume traditions such as the baby dolls.

The end of segregation in the 1950s and '60s — and new economic opportunities — brought new avenues for African-Americans to participate in Mardi Gras. Debutante presentations at gala balls and more traditional float parades sprung up. And the revival of Lundi Gras celebrations the day before Mardi Gras brought together the monarch of the predominantly white Rex krewe to meet with the king of Zulu to toast the coming festival.

As times changed, the baby doll tradition faded.

But not everyone forgot the dolls, or what they meant to Carnival in New Orleans.

One new group — the 504 Eloquent Baby Dolls of New Orleans, named in part for a telephone area code — will march with a tribe of Mardi Gras Indians and the Skull and Bones club, maskers clad as skeletons in another revived black tradition.

"I've got a wonderful group of women who want to educate our youth, who want to bring our culture back to the streets of New Orleans," said Denise Trepagnier, a heavy crane operator and part-time seamstress who organized the group.

Around New Orleans neighbourhoods, you might catch a glimpse of other baby doll troupes with names like the Gold Digger Baby Dolls, the Treme Million Dollar Baby Dolls and the Ernie K-Doe Baby Dolls.

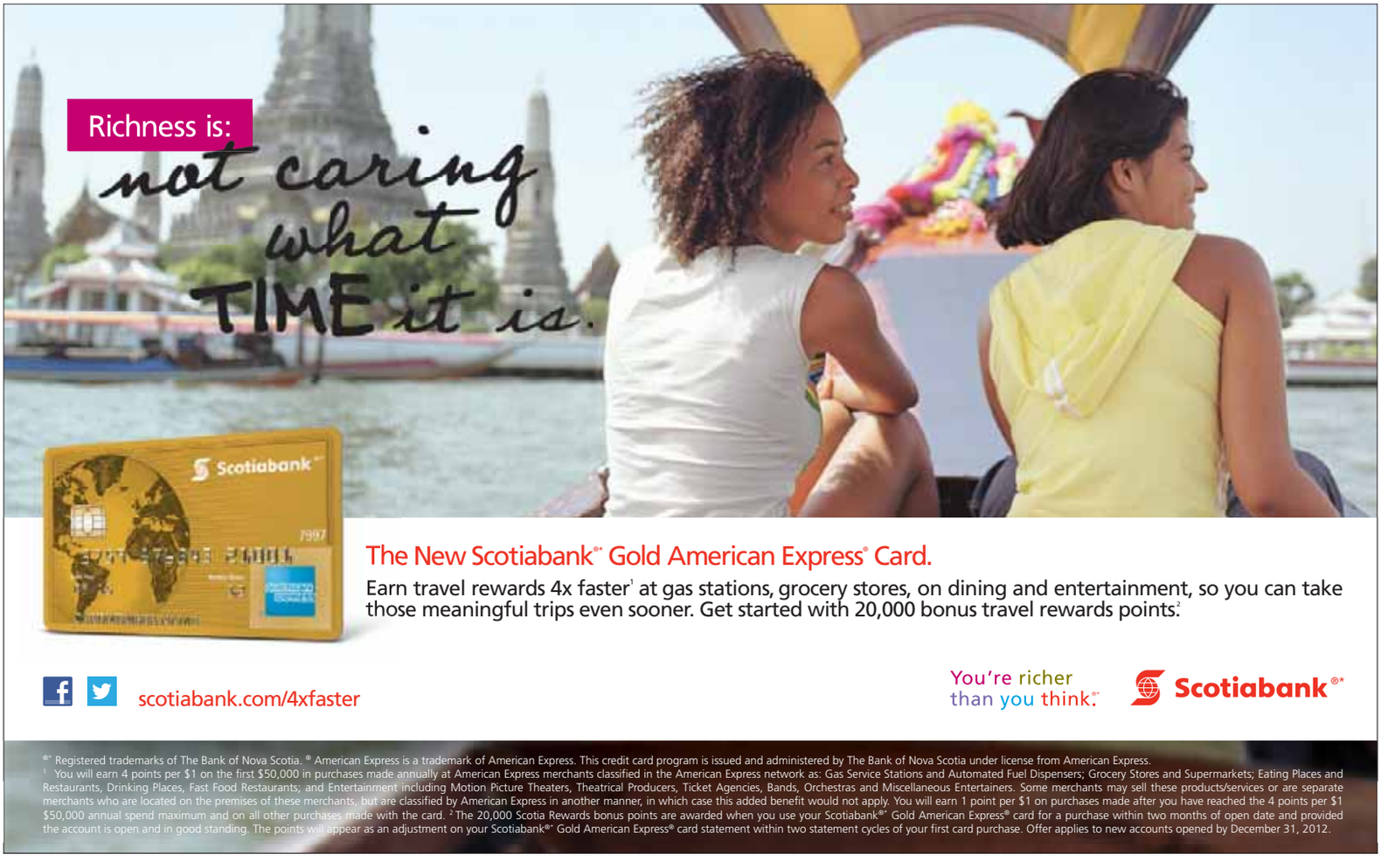
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The baby doll tradition began in 1912 when African American, illegal prostitutes would dress up to outdo their legal rivals. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"I've got a wonderful group of women who want to educate our youth, who want to bring our culture back to the streets of New Orleans."

504 Eloquent Baby Dolls organizer Denise Trepagnier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The land of frozen pines, fresh powder

Ski escapes. These four spots offer something for families, weekend warriors and true powder hounds

JANE MARSHALL
life@metronews.ca

Air scented with the resin of frozen pines, the feeling of carving your skis into a fast groomer and alpine vistas where sawback peaks break the horizon. The mountains are calling...

Family-friendly skiing at Marmot Basin in Jasper

"The terrain (at Marmot) is probably the most balanced in western Canada, with 30 per cent green, 30 per cent blue, 20 per cent black and 20 per cent double black terrain," says Jeff Bartlet, Media and PR specialist for Tourism Jasper. Marmot has a base and mid-mountain lodge, so if kids get cold it's never far to hot chocolate. It also offers nursery care for little ones 19 months and up, and lessons for children and adults. Overall feeling: cozy with wild powder to be had.

Doing the Dive at Sunshine Village in Banff

Sunshine Village offers so much varied terrain that adrenaline begins to pump at the sight of an area map. And for experts, Sunshine holds a special delight: Delirium Dive. This off-piste area accessed from Lookout Mountain features more than 2,000 feet of vertical, a 40 degree average pitch and more than 600 acres of terrain. Skiers are required to carry beacons, probes and shovels and hike in groups of two or more. Check in with patrols at an access gate off the Continental Divide chair. Then it's a hike along a skinny ridge to drop into powdery heaven.

Luxurious Lake Louise in Lake Louise

The iconic Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise offers a dose of luxury to the ski experience. Think fine china, exquisite old-world charm and expansive views of the icy lake. The chateau sits on the edge of a lake that has captivated travellers for a century. For luxury, eat a meal at the elegant Fairview Dining Room. Feast on local cuisine and one of the world's best views.

Picking Peaks at Kicking Horse Mountain Resort in Golden, B.C.

Throwing our skis over a shoulder, my husband Mike and I followed one of the resort's senior patrollers, Steve Crowe, to explore some in-bounds ridges.

"There's an amazing world that unfolds," says Matt Mosteller, VP of Marketing and Sales for Resorts of the Canadian Rockies. "For those looking to explore less accessible terrain, I recommend checking in with the patrols. They share a love of the mountains and can point people in the right direction."

Four hikes took us to the quiet cove of Bowl Over and to the peaks of Terminator, Blue Heaven (Whitewall), and Terminator 2. Views of the quartzite Purcells pop up like canines, the Bugaboos appear on the far horizon as blue bulges and the Rocky Mountains show off their steep, varied girth. This is double-black diamond terrain.

Try something a bit off-piste — Delirium Dive. COURTESY DAN HUDSON

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Travel tips

Don't fail your fitness routine

ON THE MOVE
Loren Christie
life@metronews.ca

Stay near a natural running route that makes it easy to get out and play. ISTOCK

If you are a road warrior anxious to keep the pounds off and the heart rate up, here are some tips to help you stay fit on your next trip.

Don't under estimate the effect jetlag can have on energy and motivation levels. Avoid it by drinking lots of water and staying away from alcohol and caffeine before, during and just after a flight. Adjust eating and sleeping schedules to your local destination time immediately.

Check in to a hotel with a proper fitness facility. The fully out-fitted health club you imagine, with dozens of treadmills, pilates classes and a gorgeous personal trainer could turn out to be a solitary rowing machine tucked into an old photocopy room. Nothing is more un-motivating than a lack of good equipment.

When making your room reservation, ask the agent to describe exactly what the gym has to offer.

Go a step further and choose a hotel that promotes fitness. The Westin hotel chain has a running concierge program where one of the staff will take you on an early morning jog in the local area. They will even lend you New Balance running and work out gear if yours was forgotten at home. Sign up when you check-in. A written commitment will make it harder for you to hit the snooze button.

Hit a local gym. If you just can't find accommodation that suits both your business and health needs, then look outside the hotel. Just ask your concierge for a recommendation for a nearby gym or club that offers a day pass.

Stay near a park, along a river or next to a lake. These natural running routes are a great way to combine fitness with a little sightseeing. On business trips to London, I always stay at the Park Lane Hotel. Situated next to Hyde Park, it allows me to squeeze in a half-hour run and catch a glimpse of some of London's most famous landmarks at the same time.

Bring your favourite workout DVD with you. Even if the hotel doesn't offer DVD players in the guest rooms, just pop it into your laptop. Or upload your favourite work out program onto a PDA before you leave home.

Bottom line, do not use being on the road as an excuse to stay on the couch.

Apricot and Cherry Salsa plays sidekick to turkey

ROSE REISMAN
for more, visit
rosereisman.com

Most supermarkets now sell boneless turkey breast, which is leaner than chicken. A 3 1/2-ounce serving of chicken has about 140 calories and 3 grams of fat, while the same amount of turkey breast has 120 calories and 1 gram of fat!

If you can't find these cutlets, ask your grocer to slice boneless breast into scaloppini. Dusting it with flour keeps the turkey moist and dried fruit salsa is an ideal accompaniment.

Serve the scaloppini over Sweet Potato Mash, with grilled vegetables alongside.

Ingredients

- 4 turkey scaloppini
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 tsp vegetable oil

Salsa

- 1/4 cup chopped dried apricots
- 1/4 cup dried cranberries
- 1 cup diced red bell pepper
- 1/3 cup diced green onions, white part only
- 1 tsp crushed fresh garlic
- 1/4 cup chopped cilantro
- 3 tbsp apricot jam
- 1 tbsp pure maple syrup
- 1 tsp Dijon mustard
- 2 tsp apple cider vinegar or freshly squeezed lemon juice

Garnish

- 3 tbsp chopped cilantro or parsley

1. Dust the turkey with flour. Spray a non-stick grill pan or skillet with cooking oil, add the vegetable oil and heat to medium. Sauté the turkey just until browned on both sides and no longer pink, about 8 minutes in total. Remove from the heat and keep covered.

2. To make the salsa, combine the apricots, cranberries, bell pepper, green onion, garlic, cilantro, jam, maple syrup, mustard and lemon juice.

3. Spoon the salsa over the turkey and garnish with cilantro or parsley. **ROSE REISMAN'S COMPLETE LIGHT KITCHEN (WHITECAP BOOKS) BY ROSE REISMAN**

Turkey Scaloppini with Apricot and Dried Cherry Salsa

This recipes serves four. BRIAN MACDONALD, FROM ROSE REISMAN'S COMPLETE KITCHEN (WHITECAP BOOKS)

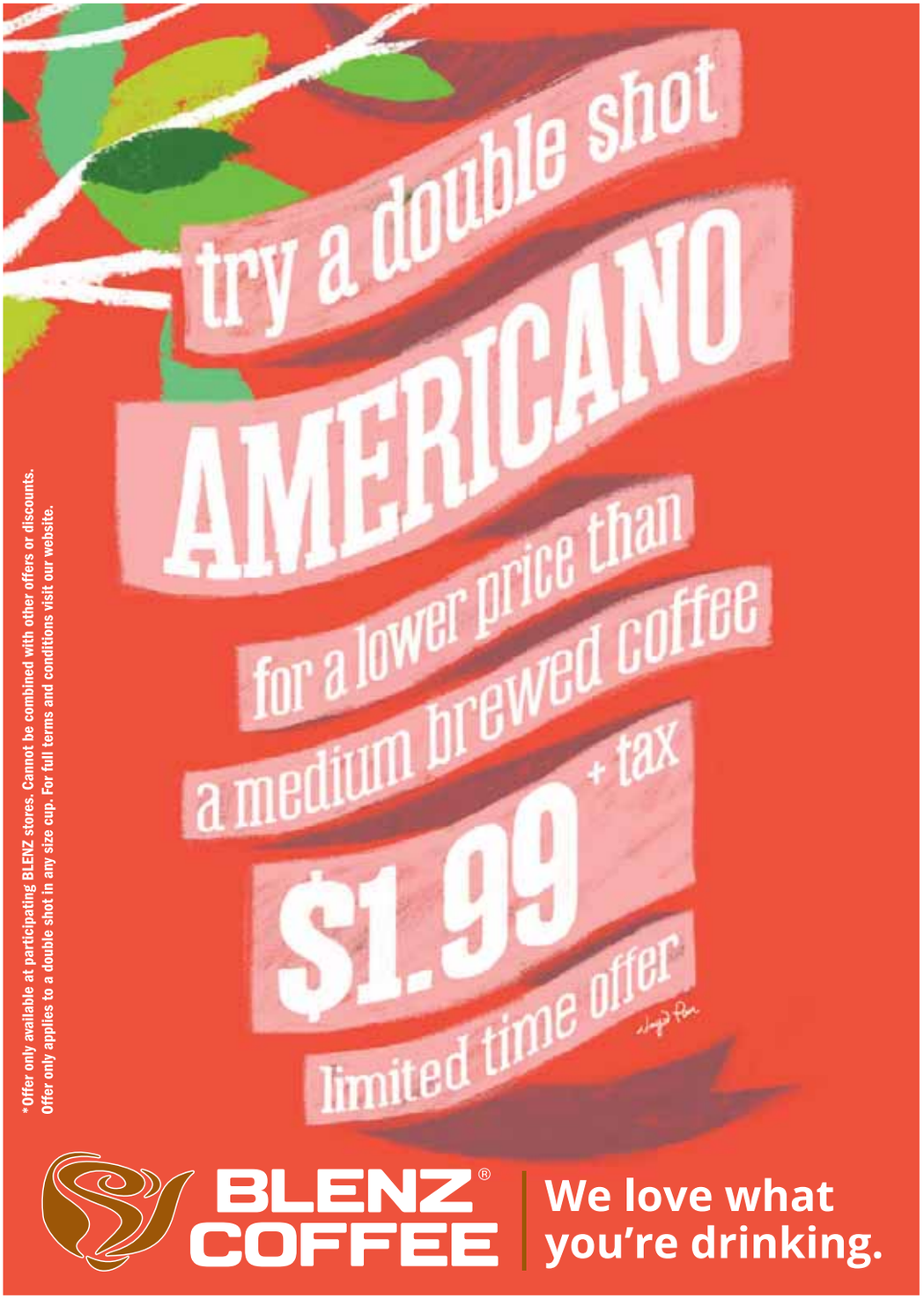
Drink of the Week

Frostbite

A mix of tequila, crème de cacao and blue curacao shaken with milk and garnished with maraschino cherries, this is the type of frostbite you'll want to get.

- 1 oz Jose Cuervo Silver Tequila
- .5 oz White Crème de Cacao
- .5 oz Blue Curacao
- 1 oz milk
- Garnish with cherries

Shake all ingredients with ice in shaker. Strain contents over fresh ice. Garnish with 2 cherries on a sword. Add a cocktail straw and serve. **PHOTO AND RECIPE COURTESY OF FIRKIN PUBS, FIRKINPUBS.COM**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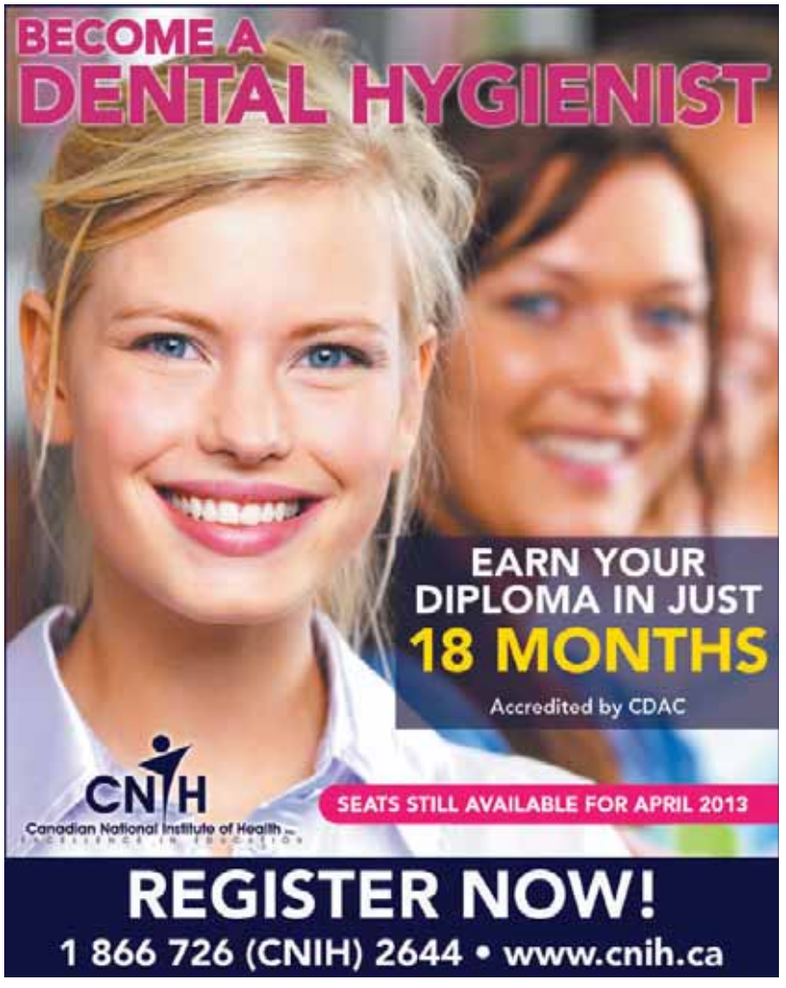

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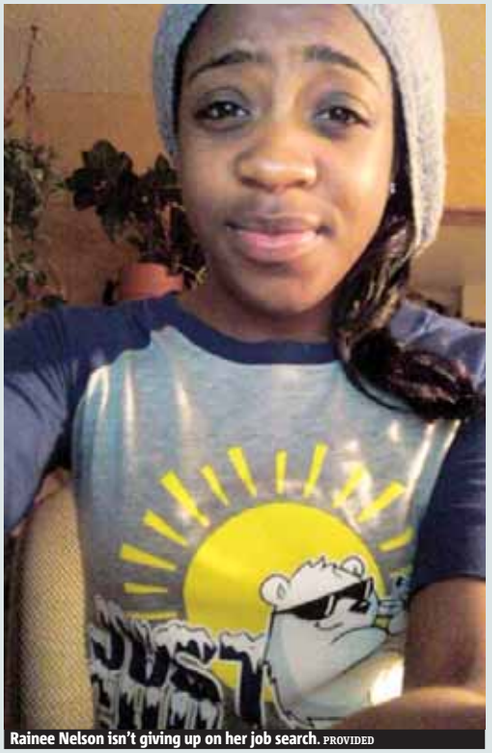

Rainee Nelson isn't giving up on her job search. PROVIDED

When I finished high school last summer, I was planning to go to post-secondary school the next winter and I thought everything would be fine.

My plan for the summer was to spend as much time with my friends as possible, because they were going off to university in the fall and I also was searching for a job. When September came around and all my friends headed off to university, it was lonely, but I needed to continue with my job search.

Due to my indecisiveness, I chose not to pursue the program I registered for and opted for taking a year off to work. So I started up my job search again. I sat down at the computer and just Googled all the stores and companies I could think of and just sent them my resumé.

I got two interviews, one I thought went pretty well and the other, not so much. I've gotten emails back saying they'll look at my profile/resumé and they'll be in touch, but no one got in touch.

After a while, I felt like no one had seen my resumé or even cared to look because I didn't have much experience.

Well, how can I gain experience if no one would give me a chance? But I kept looking and I'm still looking. I'm not sure if it's my resumé or my interview skills (even though I've only been in two my whole life) but, who knows. Practice makes perfect.

What I'm doing now

Right now I'm still currently looking for a job and I'm considering doing some internship work. Maybe that could add to my experience.

My recommendations for employers, career centres and schools

I haven't had enough experience to give a recommendation, but from the last interview I had I would say to the employers: make the interviewee as comfortable as possible. How are you going to get to know someone and see if they are up for the job if you can see them fumbling over their words, constantly moving around and downright being a nervous wreck? Making someone else feel comfortable as well will make the whole interview process a lot easier, I believe.

My advice for other students and recent graduates

My advice would be don't leave it to the last minute. Do your research, have someone look over your resumé and just go for it. If you truly want something, take risks and see what happens. Don't be lazy or procrastinate or you'll end up in the same position as I am.

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ASHLEIGH TRAHAN
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As a recruiter, I've searched for professionals to fill roles with clients across the globe, in a wide variety of industries.

One industry has truly stood out in terms of the opportunities it presents to work abroad: mining.

I've encountered mining engineers who have been able to work their way around the world on amazing projects in the most remote corners of the earth.

If you are looking to experience different countries and cultures, you should consider a career in mining!

Dig deep and ask yourself: is this the right career for you?
FLICKR / RICK MCCHARLES

You can certainly work for the head office of a mining company without leaving the confines of big cities like Toronto, Vancouver and Calgary. But if Bay Street isn't your style, a mining career could be your ticket to adventure in remote, rugged locations both in Canada and abroad.

For example, Canadian mining company Teck Resources has mine sites from the Red Dog zinc-lead mine in northwestern Alaska, to the Quebrada Blanca mine in northern Chile. Goldcorp's largest operation is their Red Lake site in northern Ontario, but their operations also span to multiple sites in Mexico, if you prefer sun over snowshoes.

As you may suspect, mining companies often hire young professionals with backgrounds in engineering and geology, but those are not the only opportunities to make a career in the industry.

Long before mines are producing tons of precious metals per day, there are thousands of workers required to create the budgets, do the legal legwork and bring the mine into production.

Often, mining companies will hire surveyors, engineers and geologists for a few years to support the design and build of a mine, and then they'll move on to a different project.

These lucky folks get to travel around the world and spend a few years in Australia before moving onto their next project in Panama. When the mine is actually operational, all sorts of support staff to keep the mine operations running smoothly — health and safety experts, information technology professionals, and skilled trades, to name a few.

Up for an adventure?

"Canadian mining company Teck Resources has mine sites from the Red Dog zinc-lead mine in northwestern Alaska, to the Quebrada Blanca mine in northern Chile."
Ashleigh Trahan

So, even if you're looking to launch a career in human resources, for example, there are opportunities for you in the mining industry.

Working in remote locations and new countries may present challenges that working in a cubicle may not (like being a few hundred kilometres from the nearest Starbucks), it also provides the opportunity to be exposed to new cultures while gaining experience in an exciting and innovative industry.

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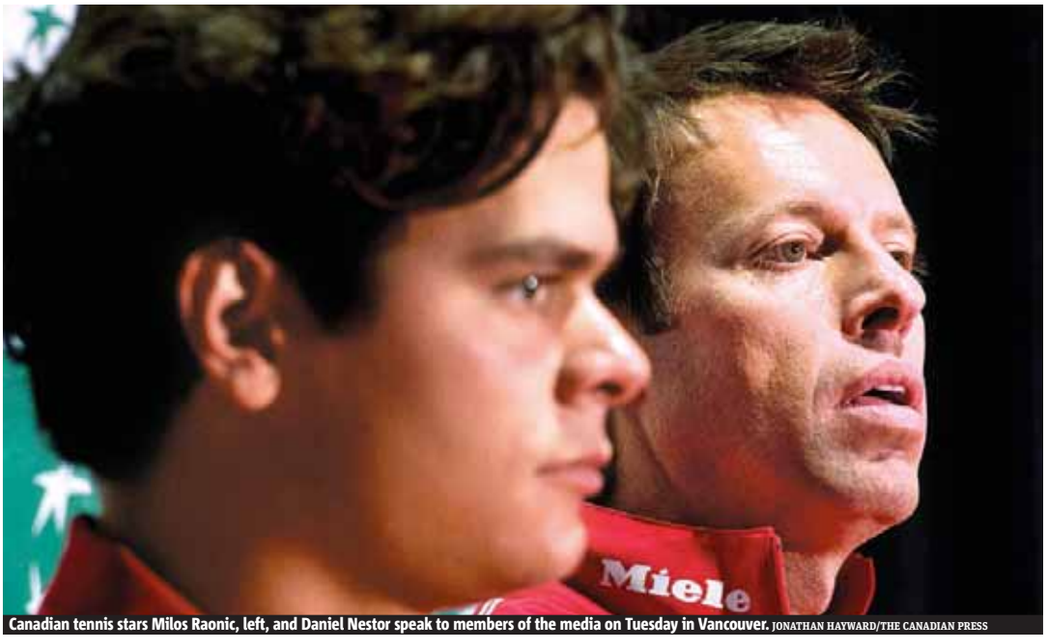


Canadian tennis stars Milos Raonic, left, and Daniel Nestor speak to members of the media on Tuesday in Vancouver. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada hoping 'legend' doubles up on Spain

Davis Cup. 40-year-old Daniel Nestor will carry 3 decades of success into this weekend's first-round tie

CAM TUCKER
cam.tucker@metronews.ca

Spain's team captain Alex Corretja called him a "legend." His Canadian brethren see him as both a mentor and regular teammate.

Daniel Nestor, at age 40, has been at or near the top of the men's tennis doubles scene over three decades, winning a total of 80 titles in his career, beginning in 1994, and accumulating an overall record of 882-350 in doubles competition.

Looking long-term, Nestor, also an Olympic gold medalist for Canada in 2000, could make a decision on his playing future by "maybe the end of next year."

That isn't for a while yet.

Short-term, there is the Davis Cup World Group first-round tie this weekend in Vancouver.

Nestor and his Canadian teammates, including team captain Martin Laurendeau, were formally introduced to the media during a press conference at UBC Tuesday.

Canada will host top-ranked Spain in the first-round tie at the Doug Mitchell Thunderbird Centre, from Friday to Sunday.

Nestor is the oldest player between the two teams; the next oldest is Spain's Marc Lopez, who is a spry 30.

Two of his teammates, Vasek Pospisil and Milos Raonic, were both born in 1990, and could've still been wearing diapers when Nestor turned pro the following year.

Through age comes experience. Nestor has no shortage of that, or success.

"I think he's given a lot of direction, a lot of insight and hope into the whole tour life and for what needs to be done for a lot of young kids," said the 22-year-old Raonic, the 15th-ranked men's singles player in the world.

"The thing is, he's not always on TV but you always hear about him going deep into Grand Slams.

"I think he still gets a lot of the rewards he deserves."

Nestor hinted that Pospisil could be his doubles partner against Spain.

"Daniel, obviously with his experience, he's got a big voice in the locker-room," said Laurendeau.

Quoted

"He's a guy that I go to for advice.... I'll be sharing with him how he feels and his feedback is very important."

Canada team captain Martin Laurendeau on Daniel Nestor

MLB

A-Rod says latest PED accusations are 'not true'

Alex Rodriguez denied a newspaper report that accused him of buying human growth hormone and other performance-enhancing substances from a Miami-area clinic.

The Miami New Times, an alternative weekly, reported Tuesday it had obtained records detailing purchases by Rodriguez and Toronto outfielder Melky Cabrera, among other baseball players, from a clinic run by Anthony Bosch.

Rodriguez admitted four years ago that he used PEDs from 2001 to 2003.

"The news report about a purported relationship between Alex Rodriguez and Anthony Bosch are not true," Rodriguez said in a statement issued by a publicist. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

X Games

Family doubtful of snowmobiler's survival after crash

Snowmobiler Caleb Moore was in critical condition Tuesday in a Colorado hospital after a dramatic crash at the X Games.

Moore was performing a flip Thursday when he clipped the top of a jump and went over the handlebars and landed face first into the snow. The snowmobile rolled over him, but he walked off with help and went to a hospital with a concussion. Moore later developed bleeding around his heart.

"Caleb is not doing good at all," Caleb's grandfather Charles Moore told The Denver Post. "The prognosis is not good at all. It's almost certain he's not going to make it." **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Canucks look to continue success vs. Avs

Members of the Los Angeles Kings celebrate a goal against the Vancouver Canucks in Los Angeles, Monday. The Canucks earned three points on their recent three-game California road trip. CHRIS CARLSON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Vancouver Canucks were given the day off Tuesday after concluding a three-game road trip through California the previous night.

The team will resume its home schedule Wednesday against the Colorado Avalanche at Rogers Arena.

After starting off in the Golden State with an emphatic shutout win over the Anaheim Ducks, the Canucks struggled the rest of the way.

They collected three of a possible six points, blowing another two-goal lead in a 3-2 shootout loss to L.A. Monday night.

The Canucks, currently with a record of 2-2-2, have dominated the Avalanche in recent years, including last season when Vancouver went a perfect 6-0 — three of those wins were shutouts — against its Northwest Division rival.

On Tuesday, Canucks president and general manager Mike Gillis announced that the club's minor-league goalie Eddie Lack underwent successful hip surgery.

The 25-year-old Lack had been playing for the Chicago Wolves until the injury sidelined him in late November. The Canucks confirmed he could be out for six months.

"After consultation with our team physicians, it was deemed that Eddie Lack would require a procedure on his hip," said Gillis in a statement.

"We expect Eddie to make a complete recovery and continue his professional career after a successful rehabilitation program." **CAM TUCKER/METRO**

Goalie on the mend

Eddie Lack, who hails from Norrtalje, Sweden, originally signed with the Canucks as a free agent in April 2010 after impressing the NHL club while playing for the Manitoba Moose in the AHL.

No longer 'The Man' in San Fran

Super Bowl. Once the NFL's superstar receiver, Randy Moss is still coming to terms with reduced role with 49ers

Randy Moss used to be a star. Now, he's just an afterthought with the San Francisco 49ers.

It's a role he's still struggling to accept.

Moss spent much of his career as one of the NFL's top receivers. During Super Bowl media day on Tuesday, he called himself "the greatest receiver ever to do it." That's a claim sure to be debated in NFL circles.

One thing is certain: The 35-year-old Moss is no longer an elite receiver. This season with the 49ers he caught just 28 passes for 434 yards and three touchdowns.

Moss says he "doesn't understand" being a blocker and a decoy.

"For me not to be out here making plays is something I just don't understand," he said.

Then, he remembered why he's here.

"If that's going to win me a ring," Moss said, "yeah, I accept that."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Randy Moss told media on Tuesday that he is the "greatest receiver ever" to play in the NFL.

DAVID J. PHILLIP/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
New Jersey	5	3	0	2	12	9	8
NY Islanders	6	3	2	1	22	19	7
NY Rangers	6	3	3	0	16	17	6
Pittsburgh	6	3	3	0	16	18	6
Philadelphia	7	2	5	0	14	20	4

NORTHEAST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Boston	6	5	0	1	19	12	11
Ottawa	6	4	1	1	19	12	9
Montreal	5	4	1	0	17	10	8
Toronto	6	3	3	0	18	20	6
Buffalo	6	2	3	1	16	19	5

SOUTHEAST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Tampa Bay	6	5	1	0	29	15	10
Winnipeg	6	3	2	1	18	18	7
Carolina	5	2	3	0	14	18	4
Washington	6	1	4	1	13	22	3
Florida	6	1	5	0	10	24	2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Chicago	6	6	0	0	22	13	12
St. Louis	6	5	1	0	24	13	10
Detroit	6	3	2	1	15	17	7
Nashville	6	1	2	3	10	18	5
Columbus	7	2	4	1	13	22	5

NORTHWEST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Minnesota	6	3	2	1	16	17	7
Edmonton	5	3	2	0	15	14	6
Vancouver	6	2	2	2	16	19	6
Colorado	5	2	3	0	10	13	4
Calgary	4	1	2	1	11	15	3

PACIFIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
San Jose	5	5	0	0	23	8	10
Anaheim	4	3	1	0	15	14	6
Los Angeles	5	2	2	1	11	14	5
Dallas	7	2	4	1	13	18	5
Phoenix	6	2	4	0	21	20	4

Note: A team winning in overtime or shootout is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; the team losing in overtime or shootout receives one point which is registered in the OL (other loss) column.

Tuesday's results
Boston 2 New Jersey 1 (SO)
NY Rangers 2 Philadelphia 1
Toronto 4 Buffalo 3 (OT)
Montreal 4 Winnipeg 3
Ottawa 3 Washington 2
Detroit 4 Dallas 1
NY Islanders 4 Pittsburgh 1
Tampa Bay 5 Florida 2
Minnesota 3 Columbus 2
Anaheim at San Jose
Monday's results
Boston 5 Carolina 3
Columbus 2 Dallas 1
Phoenix 4 Nashville 0
Edmonton 4 Colorado 1
Los Angeles 3 Vancouver 2 (SO)
Wednesday's games — All Times Eastern
Montreal at Ottawa, 7 p.m.
Chicago at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Edmonton at Phoenix, 9:30 p.m.
Colorado at Vancouver, 10 p.m.
Thursday's games
Washington at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Pittsburgh at NY Rangers, 7 p.m.
NY Islanders at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
Buffalo at Boston, 7 p.m.
St. Louis at Columbus, 7 p.m.
Winnipeg at Florida, 7:30 p.m.
Colorado at Calgary, 9 p.m.
Nashville at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.
Edmonton at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.

NHL SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	Pt
Marleau, SJ	9	4	13
Thornton, SJ	3	10	13
St. Louis, TBL	3	8	11
Stamkos, TBL	3	7	10
Pavelski, SJ	2	8	10
Parise, Min	5	4	9
Vanek, Buf	3	6	9
Kane, Chi	2	7	9
Gaborik, NYR	5	3	8
Hossa, Chi	5	3	8
Tarasenko, STL	4	4	8
Pominville, Buf	3	5	8
Couture, SJ	3	5	8
Shattenkirk, STL	0	8	8
Conacher, TBL	2	5	7
Hall, Edm	1	6	7
Purcell, TBL	1	6	7
Tavares, NYI	1	6	7
Pietrangelo, STL	1	6	7
Winnik, Ana	5	1	6
Heatley, Min	4	2	6
Staal, Car	4	2	6
Kane, Win	3	3	6
Toews, Chi	3	3	6
Byfuglien, Win	3	3	6

Not including last night's games

NFL

SUPER BOWL XLVII

Sunday, Feb. 3 At New Orleans, La.
Baltimore vs. San Francisco, 6 p.m.

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	28	13	.683	—
New York	27	15	.643	1½
Chicago	27	17	.614	2½
Brooklyn	27	18	.600	3
Indiana	26	19	.578	4
Atlanta	25	19	.568	4½
Milwaukee	24	19	.558	5
Boston	21	23	.477	8½
Philadelphia	18	26	.409	11½
Detroit	17	28	.378	13
Toronto	**16**	**29**	**.356**	**14**
Orlando	14	30	.318	15½
Cleveland	13	33	.283	17½
Washington	11	32	.256	18
Charlotte	11	33	.250	18½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	36	11	.766	—
Oklahoma City	34	11	.756	1
L.A. Clippers	33	13	.717	2½
Memphis	29	15	.659	5½
Golden State	28	17	.622	7
Denver	28	18	.609	7½
Utah	24	21	.533	11
Houston	25	22	.532	11
Portland	22	22	.500	12½
L.A. Lakers	19	25	.432	15½
Dallas	19	25	.432	15½
Minnesota	17	24	.415	16
Sacramento	17	29	.370	18½
New Orleans	15	29	.341	19½
Phoenix	15	30	.333	20

Note: division leaders ranked in top three positions regardless of winning percentage.

Tuesday's results
Golden State 108 Cleveland 95
Milwaukee 117 Detroit 90
Dallas at Portland
New Orleans at L.A. Lakers
Monday's results
Memphis 103 Philadelphia 100
Golden State 114 **Toronto 102**
Sacramento 96 Washington 94
Brooklyn 97 Orlando 77
Chicago 93 Charlotte 85
Denver 102 Indiana 101
Houston 125 Utah 80
Wednesday's games — All Times Eastern
Washington at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Detroit at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Sacramento at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
Orlando at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Toronto at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Miami at Brooklyn, 8 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Chicago at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
Charlotte at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Houston at Denver, 9 p.m.
New Orleans at Utah, 9 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Phoenix, 10:30 p.m.

MLS

Whitecaps interested in Leveron: Lenarduzzi

Vancouver Whitecaps president Bob Lenarduzzi on Tuesday denied a LaPrensa report that Honduran defender Johnny Leveron had signed with the local Major League Soccer club.

However, Lenarduzzi did say the Whitecaps were interested in the 22-year-old. But nothing is official. Lenarduzzi also couldn't say if Leveron had joined the club in Arizona, where Vancouver is holding training camp.

The Whitecaps began their exhibition schedule on Tuesday night with a 4-1 win over the New England Revolution in Casa Grande, Ariz. Darren Mattocks had a hat trick and Kenny Miller scored on a penalty kick.

CAM TUCKER/METRO

Johnny Leveron with Honduras during the London Olympics.

GETTY IMAGES FILE

WHAT THE CANUCKS ARE TELLING US SO FAR

THE HOCKEY NEWS
Edward Fraser
vancouver@metronews.ca

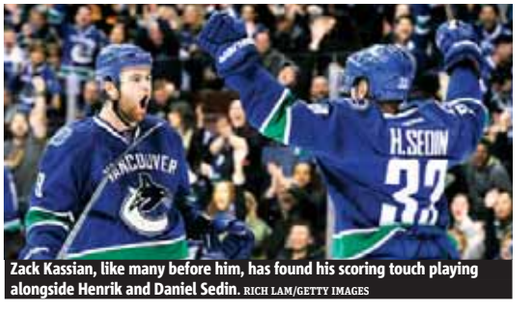
Inconsistency has been the Vancouver Canucks' calling card through their first six games. At times they've looked like a team worthy of The Hockey News' Stanley Cup prediction (see Ducks game, Jan. 25). At others they've looked like a team destined to miss the playoffs altogether (see Ducks game, Jan. 18). What are we to make of this? With a 2-2-2 record, here are four things we've learned:

1 **The Cody Hodgson-Zack Kassian deal wasn't as bad as most thought.** I wondered in this column three weeks ago whether Kassian was a plug or power forward. The answer is clearly the latter. He's been the total package, scoring, fighting, hitting, whatever's needed. The best news is he's developing chemistry with the Sedins. The ceiling is high again.

2 **Brian Campbell makes those around him a lot better.** Jason Garrison, who scored 16 goals while partnered with Campbell in Florida last year, has been a letdown with zero points. He's been unable to find the net — or even the goalie — with most of his shots (he's down a half-shot per game from 2011-12). He should improve as he develops chemistry with Alex Edler. If not, the Canucks paid nearly $28 million for a second-pair D-man.

3 **Alex Edler is still good for at least one terrible turnover each game.** And it's a solid night if you only get one. The 26-year-old has all the tools to be an elite blueliner, but the regular brain cramps he's become notorious for keep him out of the upper echelon. There are flashes of Nick Lidstrom in Edler's play. The hope is he'll outgrow the mistakes. After all, Lidstrom didn't win his first Norris until age 32.

4 **The Sedins can't do it alone.** Daniel and Henrik have played well, putting up a combined 10 points. But the absence of Ryan Kesler, and to a lesser extent David Booth, puts too much pressure on one line to score. Mason Raymond, Alex Burrows and Jannik Hansen have performed admirably, but there's a noticeable gap from Vancouver's first- to second-tier talent. You won't see the "real" Canucks until No. 17 returns. Unfortunately for the team and fans, there's still no definitive timetable for his return.



Zack Kassian, like many before him, has found his scoring touch playing alongside Henrik and Daniel Sedin. RICH LAM/GETTY IMAGES

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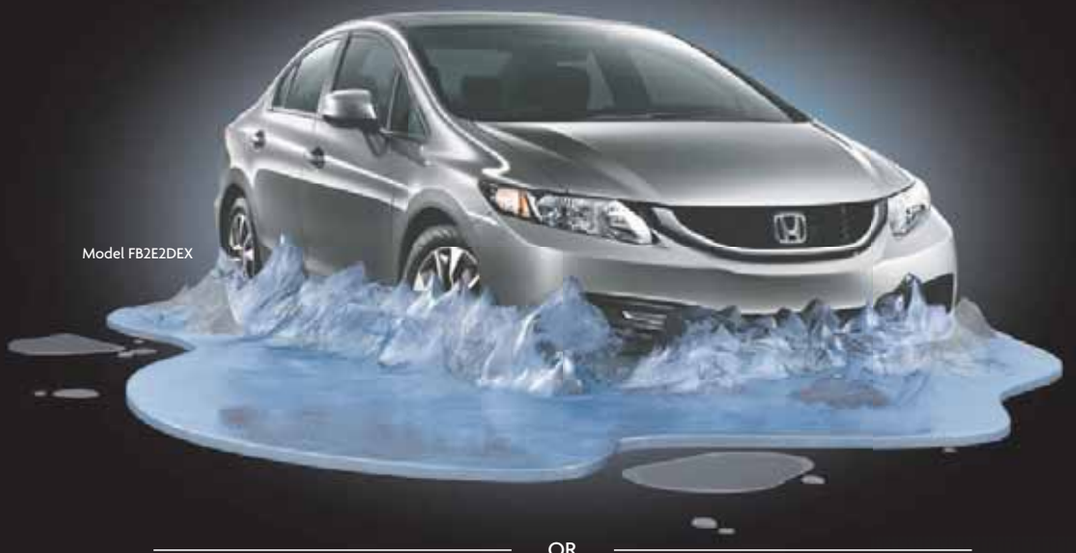

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2013 Buick Verano Turbo

ALL PHOTOS WHEELBASE

Fuel economy

Fuel economy with the manual gearbox is 10.2 l/100 km in the city and 6.3 on the highway (10.1/6.6 for the automatic), numbers that differ only slightly from the base Verano's 9.9/6.2 rating. To handle the power, the Turbo receives a unique steering calibration and a suspension that's 20 per cent firmer.

The engine is a two litre with 250 hp.

2013 Buick Verano Turbo

- **Type.** Four-door entry-luxury compact sedan
- **Engine (hp).** 2.0-litre DOHC I4 (250)
- **Transmission.** Six-speed automatic; six-speed manual
- **Base price (incl.destination).** $32,400

Engine

Enter the Verano Turbo that puts out 250 horsepower from its 2.0-litre four-cylinder. More importantly, the engine makes 260 pound-feet of torque, with 90 per cent of it available from between 1,750 and 5,500 revs per minute. That's only 20 horses and 10 pound-feet shy of the larger (and heavier) Buick Regal GS.

Power

Buick claims the Turbo will accelerate to 60 m.p.h. (96 km/h) from rest in slightly more than six seconds, which is right in line with comparable premium brands from Audi and BMW that Buick holds up as performance benchmarks. It's also half a second quicker than the 270-horsepower Regal GS.

Review. Dressed for the ball but wearing sneakers ... fast sneakers

MALCOLM GUNN
Wheelbase Media

Buick's grand plan is in full swing and it appears to be actually working.

Just what is the plan, you ask? Well, it involves downsizing the line and injecting it with more style and less mass. And baptizing all models in a fountain of youth.

They also run on smaller, fuel-frugal power plants that offer as much as or greater performance than previous models. The plan includes enhancing the luxury-car experience to match or exceed the premium import brands.

The Lacrosse and Regal already fall into this strategy, as does the Verano, which was new for 2012. However for the 2013 model year the smallest Buick sedan is literally stepping up the pace with an optional — and significantly more powerful — turbo-charged model.

The sense here is that Buick needed to add some premium power for the Verano to be considered in the same sport-sedan league as BMW, Audi and Mercedes-Benz, and not be viewed as an afterthought brand. With its more mature customer base shrinking over the years, reinvention and rejuvenation has become a matter of survival. Outwardly, the Turbo varies only slightly from the regular-strength Verano with dual exhaust outlets, subtle rear spoiler and trunk lid badge. Elegant is better here, for sure.

The fact that the only significant Turbo options are a navigation system and a power sunroof underscores how well the car lines up with other luxury-leaning compacts vying for your dollars.

The overall attractiveness of the Verano, coupled with the rapid-fire authority of its high-output turbo, makes it worthy of its Euro-based peers and for less money in most cases.

You have to love it when a plan comes together.

The interior is futuristic yet elegant.

Here's where you'll feel that extra power.

By comparison

1 Audi A4
Base price: $39,700

2 Hyundai Sonata Turbo
Base price: $33,400

3 Volvo S60
Base price: $39,150

DRIVE

This angry teen's exciting European escapades drive his parents crazy

AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz
drive@metronews.ca

Teen on the run: Part of me wants to scold the kid for being so reckless, another part of me wants to congratulate him. ISTOCK

Not sure about you, but I'm conflicted about the actions of that 13-year-old driver from Italy.

A couple of weeks ago, after a dispute with his adopted parents about cellphone charges and the subsequent confiscation of his cellphone, he took off in his father's Mercedes-Benz, with the plan to visit his biological sister in Poland.

He took his passport and the equivalent of about $260. He managed to get fuel, cross two borders, and cover about 600 kilometres before he was picked up by German police and returned to his parents.

One side of me says, way to go Bud, you just caused incredible grief to everyone who cares about you and endangered hundreds of motorists from Italy to Poland.

Another side of me says, that was awesome, Bud. Not only the driving, but also the chutzpah. I can hardly cross back over the Buffalo border with a pair of undeclared Rockports on my feet.

Apparently he is a go-cart racer and actually looks like he's about 16. But still. Italy to Poland in your father's Mercedes when you're 13? You did your teenage tribe and human race proud.

We obviously shouldn't be condoning this kind of behaviour, but it is consistent with how researchers say the teenage brain is wired — particularly with boys — and possibly how teenagers "should" behave on occasion.

They have a need to take risks, and the gene pool benefits from people who learn from their risk taking when the stakes are lower.

Risk taking during adolescence is seen in all mammals, so there must be some biological reason for it. Just saying.

According to a study, called Why Do Boys Engage in More Risk Taking Than Girls by Barbara A. Morrongiello and Heather Rennie at the University of Guelph, boys have both nature and nurture-related reasons for their increased risk taking.

We encourage and/or tolerate more risk taking in our boys, and they generally are more optimistic about their chances.

And if it doesn't go so good, boys often just mark it down to bad luck. Boys are also more prone to pro rate their injury chances — a small injury is entirely OK. Girls see any chance of injury and just say no. They are smarter.

Puberty also plays a role. Apparently the section in the brain that computes emotion and social interaction is overactive during puberty, while the section designated for regulating behaviour is still a work-in-progress until early adulthood.

All this is not to justify the actions of our guy in Italy, but we should at least know what he was up against. And we should also note that he was not using his cellphone at any time during his drive. Yes, his parents took it away from him. But he was practising safe smartphone etiquette. You can't say he wasn't.

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Offer valid until January 31, 2013 only from Mercedes-Benz Vancouver Area Retail Corporate Stores.

The 2013 Honda Accord.

No one knows the Honda Accord like my mom

A maternal review. A fan and multiple owner of Accords down the years, there was no better person to judge the latest model than my mother

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
drive@metronews.ca

There's a Honda Accord expert in my family, and it isn't me.

Angie Pritchard is my mom. She drives a grey, four-cylinder, automatic 2000 Honda Accord. It replaces her 1996, which was powder blue, and equipped similarly.

That earlier model had 400,000 kilometres of reliable service when she sold it. Her current Accord has 245,000. Both posed few problems, started reliably at 30 below, and got mom around when she needed to purchase ingredients or come visit her favourite son.

Charged with creating an evaluation on the new 2013 Accord Sport, I decided to hand the keys to Mom for some insight.

I am, after all, desensitized to things like backup cameras and electric power steering in a way. I see them every week. Mom doesn't. She's been driving the same car every day for years, and I can hardly imagine what that's like.

Turns out it was, largely, a list of the new Accord's thoughtful features that she loved the most.

"The steering is really light when you park it, I liked that."
That's the electric power steering. When the car is moving at parking lot speeds, it signals the power steering system to work harder, so you don't have to. You get normal steering feel at highway speeds, and an easier time parking. At low speeds, you could steer with one finger.

"It's so smooth shifting."
That's because it has a CVT or Continually Variable Transmission, which executes the smoothest gearshifts possible: none at all. With no gears to shift, power comes on a linear wave, rather than in "steps." This saves you gas and makes acceleration smooth and seamless.

"I'm going to use this all the time."
Mom was talking about the ECON button. Press it, and the Accord's computer brain makes changes to the sensor in the gas pedal, the engine, and the transmission. These changes work with your gentle driving to help save fuel. You press this when you're trying to drive as efficiently as possible.

"I love that screen that lets you see what's behind you."
That's the backup camera. Its standard on every new Accord sold, because Honda says everyone wants one. It helps with parking and navigating while you're in reverse, and makes the area in and around the Accord safer. Winter sees it easily blocked with salty road spray, but a lick of your finger and swipe over the tiny lens as you walk by clears it.

"The turn signals blink three times, on their own?"
That's an added convenience when you're changing lanes. Tap the stick once, and it blinks the blinker three times. Makes you look like a courteous driver, even if you aren't.

"The lights stay on, on their own."
Left in AUTO, the headlights turn on when it gets dark, turn off when it's not, and even stay on for a half minute after you lock the car, so you can see your way up to the house in the dark.

My mom Angie Pritchard prior to the test drive. BOTH PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

World champion J.M. Leroux does a cartwheel after learning he can lease a 2013 Jetta from only $168 a month with no down payment.

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$0 DOWN PAYMENT

2013 Tiguan
LEASE FROM $298 PER MONTH FOR 48 MONTHS* 1.9% APR

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*Limited time lease offer available through Volkswagen Finance, on approved credit, based on a new and unregistered 2013 Jetta 2.0L / 2013 Tiguan 2.0T base model with 5-speed/6-speed manual transmission. $1,395/$1,610 freight and PDI included in monthly payment. 36/48-month term. $0/$2,858 down payment and $220/$350 security deposit due at lease inception. Total lease obligation: $6,048/$17,162. 48,000/64,000 kilometre allowance; charge of $0.15 per km for excess kilometres. PPSA fee, license, insurance, registration, any dealer or other charges, options, and applicable taxes are extra. 2013 Jetta Highline 2.5L as shown is $24,590. 2013 Tiguan Comfortline 2.0T with Sport Package as shown is $33,475. Models shown for illustration purposes only. Models may not be exactly as shown. Some features may be optional on some models and available at additional cost. Dealer may lease for less. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Offer ends February 28, 2013 and is subject to change or cancellation without notice. Visit vw.ca or your Volkswagen dealer for details. "Volkswagen", the Volkswagen logo, "Das Auto & Design", "Jetta" and "Tiguan" are registered trademarks of Volkswagen AG. © 2013 Volkswagen Canada.

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Goodwrench 15 Point Inspection	✓YES	• NO	• NO	• NO
Complimentary Shuttle Service	✓YES	• NO	• NO	• NO
Wash & Vacuum	✓YES	• NO	• NO	• NO
Factory Trained Technicians	✓YES	• NO	• NO	• NO
Latest GM Technology	✓YES	• NO	• NO	• NO
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2013 SORENTO

HWY (A/T): 6.5L/100KM
CITY (A/T): 9.8L/100KM

Sorento SX shown

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All new vehicles financed, leased or purchased from Jan 19 through to June 30/2013 will be entered into a draw to win your purchase.

See Dealer for details.

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The Power to Surprise

Offer available on select new 2013 models through participating dealers to qualified customers who take delivery by January 31, 2013. Dealers may sell or lease for less. Some conditions apply. Offers are subject to change without notice. See dealer for complete details. Vehicles shown may include optional accessories and upgrades available at extra cost. All offers exclude licensing, registration, insurance, other taxes and down payment (if applicable and unless otherwise specified). Other dealer charges may be required at the time of purchase. Other lease and financing options also available. **0% purchase financing is available on select new 2013 Kia models on approved credit. Terms vary by model and trim, see dealer for complete details. Representative financing example based on 2013 Sorento LX AT (SR75BD) with a selling price of $28,667 (includes delivery and destination fees of $1,650, other fees and certain levies (including tire levies) and A/C charge ($100, where applicable)) financed at 0% APR for 60 months ($0 bi-weekly payments equal $220 per payment with a down payment/equivalent trade of $0). License, insurance, applicable taxes, variable dealer administration fees (up to $699) and registration fees are extra. Retailer may sell for less. See dealer for full details. °3 Payments On Us offer is available on approved credit to eligible retail customers who finance or lease a new 2013 Sorento from a participating dealer between January 3rd – January 31, 2013. Eligible lease and purchase finance customers will receive a cheque in the amount of three payments (excluding taxes) to a maximum of $550 per month. Lease and finance purchases are subject to approved credit. Customers will be given a choice between up to $1,650 reductions from the selling/leasing price after taxes or dealer can issue a cheque to the customer. Some conditions apply. See your dealer for complete details. Offer ends January 31st, 2013. *Bi-weekly finance payment (on approved credit) for new 2013 Sorento LX AT (SR75BD) based on a selling price of $28,667 is $156 with an APR of 1.49% for 60 months, amortized over an 84-month period. Estimated remaining principal balance of $8,009 plus applicable taxes due at end of 60-month period. Delivery and destination fees of $1,650, $1,650 "3 Payments On Us" savings, other fees and certain levies (including tire levies) and A/C charge ($100, where applicable) are included. License, insurance, applicable taxes, variable dealer administration fees (up to $699) and registration fees are extra. Offer cannot be combined with Don't Pay Until Spring promotion. †Model shown Manufacturer Suggested Retail Price for 2013 Sorento LX SX AWD (SR75BD) is $41,045 and includes delivery and destination fees of $1,650 and A/C charge ($100, where applicable). Offer available on select new 2013 models through participating dealers to qualified customers who take delivery by January 31, 2013. Dealers may sell or lease for less. Some conditions apply. Offers are subject to change without notice. See dealer for complete details. Vehicles shown may include optional accessories and upgrades available at extra cost. All offers exclude licensing, registration, insurance, other taxes and down payment (if applicable and unless otherwise specified). Other dealer charges may be required at the time of purchase. Other lease and financing options also available. ®The Bluetooth® wordmark and logo are registered trademarks and are owned by Bluetooth SIG, Inc. ††Highway city fuel consumption is based on the 2013 Sorento 2.4L GDI 4-cyl (A/T). These updated estimates are based on Transport Canada's approved criteria and testing methods. Refer to the Government of Canada's *EnerGuide Fuel Consumption Guide*. Your actual fuel consumption will vary based on driving habits and other factors. Information in this advertisement is believed to be accurate at the time of printing. For more information on our 5-year warranty coverage, visit kia.ca or call us at 1-877-542-2886. Kia Canada is the official automotive sponsor of Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD Canada). KIA is a trademark of Kia Motors Corporation.

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Horoscopes

Aries
March 21 - April 20
The important thing today is that you focus your energy in a single direction. Because if you have more than one target, you will reduce your chances of success. What is your number one goal? Make it your only goal.

Taurus
April 21 - May 21
You may be under the impression that if you don't grab what is being offered, you will miss out or fall behind. That isn't true. You will be more of a success in the long-term if you slow down a bit now.

Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Jupiter, planet of good fortune, turns direct in your sign today. So there is no reason at all why you should hold back, and every reason why you should surge ahead of the pack. Show your rivals what real speed looks like.

Cancer
June 22 - July 23
Be careful what you say to colleagues and employers today because if they feel you are being unfair, they may turn against you. If you have to be blunt at least make sure what you say is factually true.

Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
You won't hesitate to point out other people's faults today. In fact once you start, you may find it hard to stop. That's OK but don't forget it works both ways: Expect to have a few of your own failings highlighted.

Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Jupiter, planet of abundance, turns direct in the rewards and reputation area of your chart, so good things are sure to come your way. Don't worry if that seems to upset some people. They're jealous of your success.

Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You can afford to be optimistic and you can afford to believe that the risks you take will pay off — mostly, they will. But even when they occasionally go wrong, it won't be a big deal. You're a winner.

Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
If you are told something of a privileged nature today, you must keep it to yourself. If you let everyone in on the secret you won't be confided in again. In fact, you may in future be the last one to know.

Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
This looks like an excellent day for partnerships, especially those of a romantic nature. Jupiter in your opposite sign of Gemini will wash away any issues you have with the person you love most.

Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You will get through tasks and chores, both at home and at work, in record quick time today. You're a whirlwind that can't be controlled! Remember though that it's not all about speed. Make a good job of what you do too.

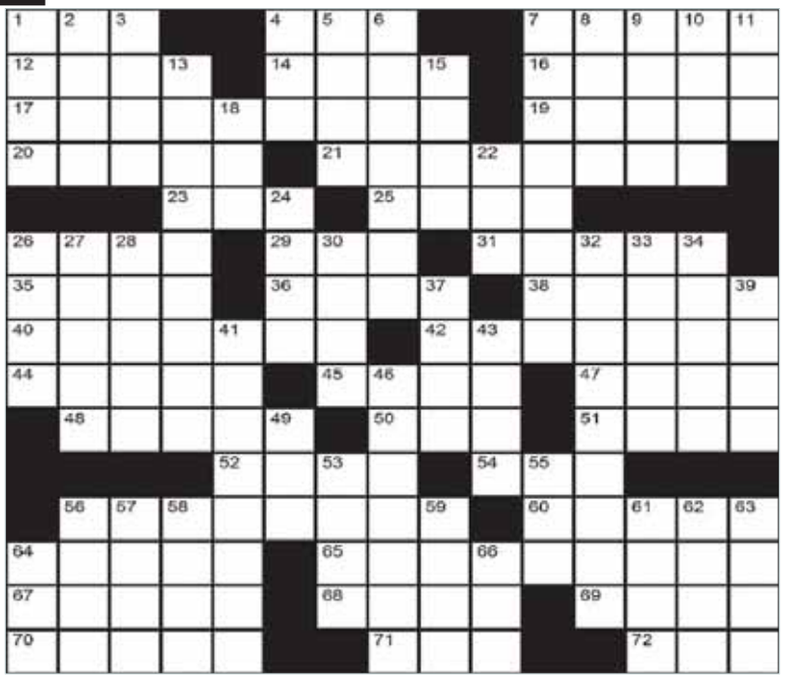
Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Generally speaking, this is still one of the best times of the year for you. But with the Sun at right angles to Saturn today, you may need to watch your back. Do you have a secret enemy? Yes, it seems you do.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
You are trying too hard to convince someone that you know what you are talking about. The more you try to persuade them, the more suspicious they get. But why do you need to convince them? Let your actions speak for you.

SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

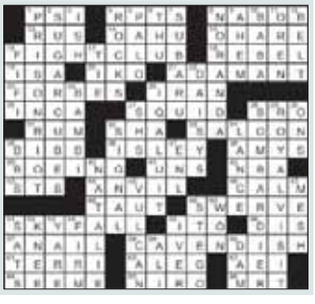
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across
1. Incidentally, texting-style
4. Blueprint
7. Big earrings
12. Press
14. Ornamental case
16. 2004 Jude Law movie remake
17. "Sunglasses at Night" singer: 2 wds.
19. 10-cent pieces
20. Van Halen guitarist
21. Born-in-Toronto film legend Mary
23. __ Angeles
25. Popular style of cooking
26. "Holy __!"
29. Work __ sweat: 2 wds.
31. V- and Crew
35. Protest song by #13-Down
36. Laundry fuzz
38. "Dancing with the Stars" alum Ms. Ali
40. Vancouver players
42. Batman foe, The __
44. Rock gig venue
45. Cosmetics company
47. "The Sopranos" actor, Robert __
48. Type of cow
50. TGIF part
51. Back muscles, to a bodybuilder
52. Not found
54. "Voices Carry" by '__ Tuesday
56. Airfield in Afghanistan
60. Nova Scotia's __ Trail
64. More wise
65. Victoria-born artist: 2 wds.
67. 'The Hub' of Nova Scotia
68. "White Flag" songstress
69. Place
70. Designer Calvin
71. Fresh
72. "For shame!"

Down
1. "American Idol" alum Bo
2. Step heavily
3. Microsoft program
4. "Not impressed."
5. _ ___ on the shoulder
6. Prude
7. Canadian astronaut Chris
8. Hodgepodge
9. "Being for the Benefit __ __. Kite!" by The Beatles
10. __ Piper
11. The Outsiders author Ms. Hinton's
13. Crosby, Stills & Nash bandmate, at times: 2 wds.
15. "The Seven Year __" (1955)
18. Royal officer, for short
22. The Sunflower State [abbr.]
24. Pout
26. Dominican Republic city
27. Canadian actress Catherine
28. Classic fabric
30. Famous Tower
32. Cars like Elvis' pink one
33. Harper Lee's To ___ Mockingbird
34. Rain/snow mix
37. Horse speed
39. Train stn. postings
41. Olympics symbol in Vancouver
43. Research facil.
46. Multi-__
49. "___ guy walks into..." (Classic joke intro)
53. Backyard storage
55. Glacial
56. Mr. Malden
57. Fluish feeling
58. Italian saint, Philip __
59. Amusement park feature
61. Decoy
62. Bits of food
63. "Star __
64. 'S' in NYSE, shortened
66. Unhigh

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

	6		8		1		3	
8								6
		3	7		9	4		
	4		1	8	3		2	
	8						9	
	3		9	7	6		1	
		4	5		2	1		
7								3
	5		6		7		4	

Yesterday's Sudoku

8	1	6	3	5	4	9	2	7
9	5	4	7	8	2	3	1	6
3	2	7	6	1	9	5	8	4
4	7	1	9	6	3	2	5	8
6	8	5	2	4	1	7	3	9
2	9	3	8	7	5	6	4	1
7	3	2	4	9	8	1	6	5
1	4	9	5	3	6	8	7	2
5	6	8	1	2	7	4	9	3

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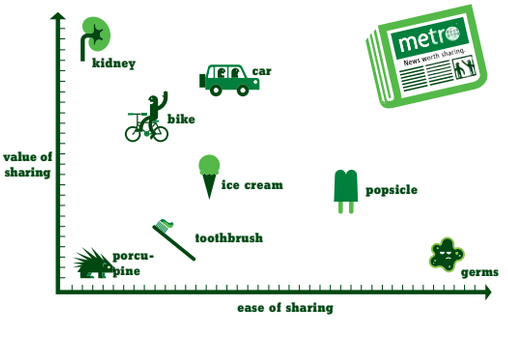

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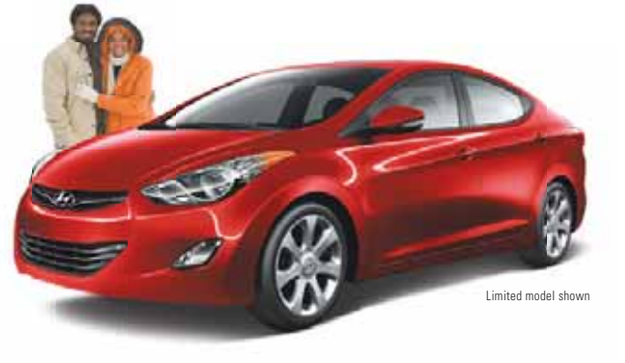

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CITY: 10.1L/100 KM

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D#9390

Mertin Hyundai
45753 Yale Rd.
Chilliwack, 604-702-1000
D#30337

Destination Hyundai
445 Kingsway
Vancouver, 604-292-8188
D#31042